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AND

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BIRTH.

At Hsin-chén, on 20th December, 1899, the wife of Dr. MALCOLM, of a daughter (CLAIRE DAVIDSON).

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 19th December arrived, per M. M. steamer *Laos*, on the 28th January (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

A Choral Society has been started at Tientsin.

Prince Waldemar of Denmark has paid a brief visit to Canton.

The newly-formed Manila A.D.C. will produce "A Pair of Spectacles" on the 9th inst.

The death of the mother of the Empress of Japan is reported to have taken place on the 15th ult.

There was one case of plague reported and one death in the colony for the week ending January 26th.

The American battleship *Brooklyn*, with Admiral Watson on board, arrived at Hongkong on the 1st inst.

Thirty-one girls were burned to death in the destruction of a weaving factory by fire at Nagoya on the 24th ult.

It is understood that Russia undertakes to back-up the Empress Dowager in her action, and to do so forcibly if necessary.

The Imperial Chinese Telegraph Administration prohibits all Chinese messages referring to the Emperor being sent from Peking.

The plague for the present has disappeared from Newchwang. Precautions are being taken against its possible reappearance in Spring.

Newchwang has commenced a subscription list in aid of the War Relief Fund. It has been generously taken up by the British community.

A special train recently did the journey from Newchwang to Port Arthur in eight hours.

General Wheeler, the veteran American cavalry leader, visited the colony on his way home from the Philippines. He visited Canton on the 28th ult.

Fifty-three Chinese officials from Wuchang, headed by the Provincial Judge, are going to Peking to protest in person against the deposition of Kuang Hsu.

A party of about fifty American mining prospectors have arrived at Dagupan, in Luzon, and are making preparations for an expedition to the mountains in search of gold.

Li Cheng-yung, Director-General of Mining and Commerce in Szechuen, has been ordered to take up his post as soon as possible, so that no undue advantages may be secured by French concessioners.

Sir Nicholas Hannen, H.B.M. Chief Justice at Shanghai, goes home on leave on the 13th of May next, and Mr. H. S. Wilkinson is to be transferred to Shanghai from Japan as Acting Chief Justice.

In connection with the recent attack on Mat Salleh in Borneo by the British North Borneo Police, we learn that 60 rebels were killed and 500 rifles were captured, but unfortunately the Police were not in sufficient force to surround the stockade to capture all the rebels.

The secretaries of the Yokohama St. Andrew's and St. George's Societies write to the press that the sum of 1,513 yen has been placed to the credit of the Soldiers' Widows and Orphans Fund there, being the total receipts of the recent entertainment given by the two Societies.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's two sister steamers of 6,000 tons each, being built at the Mitsui Bishi Shipbuilding Yard at Nagasaki, will cost the Company about 1,200,000 yen altogether. The laying of the keel of one vessel will take place some time after the 20th inst., while work on the other steamer is expected to be commenced in June next. The vessels will be constructed so as to come under the rules entitling them to State aid.

In December last—close upon Christmas Day—Messrs. Carmichael's store in Queen's Buildings, Hongkong, was broken into and watches and goods valued at \$700 were stolen. On that occasion an entrance was effected by breaking a window and shooting the fastener. On Sunday morning it was discovered that the store had been broken into in a similar manner, and \$500 worth of goods stolen, the goods comprising meerschaum and briar pipes, cigar and cigarette holders, umbrellas, binoculars, etc., besides money.

The prevalence of the pest at Kobe and Osaka has greatly affected the traffic on the railways, with the result that there has been a diminution of about 300,000 passengers per month on the Tokaido line only, followed by a loss of upwards of 100,000 yen in receipts. It is therefore feared that the loss suffered by the commercial and industrial circles has been even greater. No fresh case of plague has been reported from Osaka since the 12th. The total number of cases there from the first outbreak on 18th November last is 42, of which 39 have proved fatal. Three are under treatment at the Momoyama Hospital.

Mr. Inagaki, the Japanese Minister Resident, was received in audience by Her Majesty, the Queen of Siam, on the 16th inst., to whom he presented an autograph letter from the Empress of Japan. The principal purport of that letter is said to be the thankful acknowledgement of the receipt, by the Empress, of the Order of the Maha Chakri, which has been sent to her recently.

A "bicycle trolley" service has been established on the Shanghai-Woosung railway for the conveyance of individuals during the day and after the trains have finished running. The fare for the single journey is two dollars and the time taken by two coolies is about forty minutes. This novel introduction is expected to prove a great boon to the shipping community and will no doubt be largely patronised.

Hongkong harbour presents an imposing and war-like appearance with the large number of men-of-war here at present. There are British, the *Victorious*, *Centurion* and *Barfleur*, battleships; *Undaunted*, *Orlando*, *Iphigenia* and *Brisk*, cruisers; *Alacrity*, *Phoenix*, *Algerine*, *Waterwitch*, sloops, *Fame*, *Whiting*, *Hart* and *Handy*, destroyers and several gunboats and torpedo-boats in reserve. The foreign men-of-war here are American, *Brooklyn*, *Baltimore*, *Wheeling*, *Monadnock* and gunboats in dock; German, *Herth Illis*; French *Pascal*, Austrian *Zenta*, Danish, *Valkyrien*. There crabs combined amount to several thousands of men.

The correspondent of the *N.C. Daily News* at Vladivostock writes that an Institute of Eastern Languages was opened in Vladivostock on the 3rd of November. Professor Posdneeff from St. Petersburg University has been appointed Director. The instruction began on the 12th of November, and there are already more than thirty students. The languages taught are Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Manchurian, and Mongolian. Vladivostock has now two gymnasiums for males and females; three elementary schools for boys and girls; a Russian-Chinese School; navigation classes; and a school for twenty-five pupils from the military port. In all these institutions there are about one thousand pupils altogether.

The march out on Wednesday in connection with the Hongkong Volunteer Corps was a great success. The weather was beautifully fine. About 220 officers and men assembled at Headquarters, and headed by the fife and drum band set out for North Point soon after ten o'clock. Here volley firing and gun practice took place, and the men were inspected by His Excellency the Governor (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.), the Honorary Colonel of the Corps. Subsequently tiffin was served in the large marsh at Bay View, and after this the corps were marched down to the Polo Ground, where, under the command of Major Morris, of the R. W. F. (the Acting Commandant), they paraded before His Excellency. At the conclusion of the parade the Governor delivered a little speech. He expressed his pleasure at seeing so good a muster, and complimented the men on the manner in which they had acquitted themselves. The men then proceeded to Headquarters. Before being dismissed Major Morris spoke to them, and in the course of his observations particularly mentioned the shooting display made by the Field Battery. A good number of spectators were at North Point and at the Polo Ground.

THE DETHRONEMENT OF KUANG HSU.

(Daily Press, 27th January.)

The Imperial Edict, which is reported to have been issued at Peking on the 24th instant, announcing the Emperor of China's abdication of the Throne in favour of a juvenile protégé of the Empress-Dowager, will not come as a surprise to those who have followed the march of events in China. For some time past rumours to this effect have been prolific at Peking, and quite recently the intentions of the Empress-Dowager were foretold, though the actual time when those intentions should be realised were known only to herself and her secret counsellors. The dethronement of KUANG HSU—for it is a dethronement in every sense of the word—was not unexpected, and the period, the last few days of the dying year, naturally lent itself to the purpose, marking the last milestone on the imperial way of the Son of Heaven. To-day the four hundred millions of this trembling Empire obey, ostensibly, the immutable will of His Imperial Highness KUANG HSU; next Wednesday will witness the exit of KUANG HSU from the face of Chinese history and the inauguration of the era of PUT SING, and a little child will lead his multitudes of subjects. The advent of PUT SING is not a period of joy for his people, his enthronement no doubt will be emblazoned with all the Imperial heraldry and pomp of an ancient people, but he is a child, unknown to his people, a puppet in the hands of his Imperial mistress, whose dreaded influence and presence will denote the actual ruler. The event is really the exchange of one puppet for another, for reasons known chiefly to the Empress-Dowager herself. It is she who has ruled China, and she it is who will continue to rule whether it be the era of KUANG HSU or of PUT SING. It may be argued, and rightly too, that if the Emperor, be he man or boy, is incapable of enjoying his own, if he be so weak in will and power as to accept the dictatorial guidance in the affairs of state of this old lady, then it is she who should rule, and the imperial nonentity should be displaced. If her will be stronger than theirs then let her wear the crown. Such is merely the Imperial interpretation of the principle of the survival of the fittest. KUANG HSU goes out, PUT SING comes in; long live PUT SING!

So much for the mere question of Imperialistic honours. But how will the Emperor's displacement affect the Empire in its domestic and foreign relations? That is the cardinal point of this really undesirable event. The character of the Empress-Dowager is now well known. Her crass ignorance and bigoted antipathy to foreigners and their methods, who would raise China to a level of modern civilisation, has brought the ancient Empire to the verge of dissolution. The jealousy of the Foreign Powers alone has saved the division of the "Middle Kingdom," though she and her edicts have well-nigh provoked its downfall in spite of that restraining influence. The blame of many blunders fell on the afflicted head of KUANG HSU; he it was who was held responsible for the disastrous war with Japan; it was he who was supposed to stand in the way of all reform in China. But what did the sudden coup at Peking reveal, when some of China's best statesmen and most enlightened officials were banished or executed? It revealed what an entire and hopeless nonentity the Emperor was and what power for evil the Empress Dowager possessed. KANG YU WEN, an official who to-day should

be leading China in the path of reform, and, with his fellows, warding off the over shadowing engulfment of the Empire, escaped with his life from Peking, and is now an alien enjoying a refuge in this colony. His comrades were less fortunate; some were beheaded—the most degrading death to a Chinese scholar—others to-day labour with their hands on the post-roads of the Siberian border. These were condemned by the Empress-Dowager, their crime being that they sought to influence the young Emperor for good. They endeavoured to enlighten him in the elementary principles of sound government, and to educate his mind to grasp the realities of the nineteenth century and not wallow in the ideas and conceptions of the first. They reckoned however without the influence of the Empress-Dowager; she stepped in and, with a grasp of iron, stopped the attempt at reform. The Reformers paid the penalty with their lives two years ago for their presumption; on Tuesday the Emperor will pay the cost of his indiscretion with the loss of his throne. The curtain will fall on KUANG HSU; he will pass out of history, and, as he has lost his throne he will not unlikely lose his life.

The long smouldering jealousy between the rival princes at Peking, heads of the two most important factions, has helped to secure the ends of the Empress-Dowager. Had JUNG LU and his princely rival been united and their differences settled, the task of the Imperial lady would not have been so easy. In dissension there is weakness and it is this that threatens China and the general peace to-day. The removal of LI HUNG CHANG to Canton was another possible opponent from her immediate path. The prospects of a quiet reign for PUT SING under the regency—to put it mildly—of the Empress-Dowager are by no means assuring. China to-day, through the apathy and bigoted conservatism at Peking, is on a quick sand. The country in the western, middle and southern provinces is ripe for a rebellion of such dimensions as would overshadow entirely the recent risings. The Yangtse valley is practically ungovernable by Peking and the same may be said of the two Kwangs. All that is lacking to overthrow the existing dynasty, which has proved itself latterly so incapable, is an able leader and organisation. It is the possibility of this assisted by the astounding antics of the Imperial lady at Peking, that will affect those foreign Powers having an interest in this Empire. After all Mr. HAY's "Open Door," may yet by force of circumstances, prove to be a division of the Empire among those Powers interested.

THE CONSULAR SERVICE IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 30th January.)

[CONTRIBUTED.]

That our Consular Service is inferior in many ways to the Customs is a common remark made by the visitor to the Far East who has any object or means of comparing the two. It is with some regret that we are under the necessity of endorsing the visitor's remarks. That such is the case we regard as a fact, due partly to natural causes and partly to the indifferent manner in which the Consular Service is run from headquarters; natural causes, because our officials are only called upon as a last resort, and, consequently, they are not in such close touch nor are they forced to face such complete problems as daily fall to the lot of the Customs official. But by far the chief cause of the slackness and stagnation which is the

marked characteristic of the British Service is, as we have already said, the indifferent manner in which the service has been run for years past from Peking. Compare the two services. A despatch goes from a Consul to Peking. In all probability no acknowledgment is made of it, and he is left in ignorance of whether it has ever been received or not! Let one of the many points in connection with trade crop up and be referred to Peking for settlement. A reply is sent to the Consul who asked for a decision and to him alone. The same thing may come up at other ports and they are left—in the event of reference not being made to Peking, which the average Consul doesn't care about doing—to blindly grope their way out as best they can with the very satisfactory knowledge hanging over their heads that their action may not be approved of. With the Customs a far different system prevails. A decision given from Peking is made known to all ports. Despatches are acknowledged and business generally attended to with a promptness that has largely been the cause of that service attaining the position it has, and which enables the leading members of it to furnish that information to the enquiries which he in vain seeks from his Consul should he be of British nationality. The attitude which their chief desires them to assume on any particular point is carefully pointed out to the various Commissioners, while the Consuls are left by their chief in ignorance of what is going on and what attitude he wishes them to take. The Mining Regulations are one sample; the Inland Water Concession is a better one. The Consuls were notified of the opening and furnished with draft rules. Those published by the Chinese Government didn't and don't agree to this day with that draft. By and bye came the Supplementary Rules, and instructions were issued that the working of these was to be carefully watched and reported on—one or two men took their instructions to mean what they said and did report on them. Those that received any acknowledgment received evasive replies, and at the best received no thanks for their trouble. The correspondence published by the Chamber of Commerce affords ample evidence of our statements.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD was one of the visitors to which we have referred. He put it nicely, but there was no mistaking either what he gathered to be the general impression of the mercantile community of the Far East or what he himself thought, and while there is, without doubt, a great deal in what he says in favour of the individual, we think, with him, that there is a great deal more to be said for, or rather against, the badness of the system. Surely it would not be too much expense for the Legation to have a Chinese clerk to fill up a number of printed forms acknowledging receipt of all despatches received, or to supply every Consulate with a copying press and let press copies of all correspondence follow the original to Peking by the next mail. These are details small in their way, but they largely affect the well-being and effectiveness of the service and with it of British interests. Nor must reform be allowed to stop at these small details. The great point on which the public at home must insist is a reform in the attitude persistently adopted by the Government as expressed by the *Times* correspondent the other day, to the effect that it is the merchant that needs repressing. As long as this is the idea of the Government it must have its effect on the general bearing of the Consular and Diplomatic Service throughout the Far

East, and a consequent inclination on the part of the members of it to regard merchants and trade generally as things to be squashed as much as possible. There are, of course, exceptions to this in individual members, but in what we say we are simply voicing the sense of the community at large, and public opinion, although it may err in details, is seldom wrong as to main points. There is far too much of the holding a brief for the Chinese Government's state of mind runs throughout from Peking downwards, and it is time it was changed. A general reform is needed, and it will become the duty of those members of Parliament who have lately visited this part of the world, and of the increasing number who have interests here, to bring it prominently before the public at home. The long succession of "thwarted efforts" to which reference has been made in a well-known Consular Report must no longer be tolerated. Straightforward questions will be put, and straightforward answers insisted on, as to what our Legation are doing to force the Chinese Government to carry out the concessions they have granted and which they have hitherto successfully avoided. Until that is done our Minister can go on securing the right (on paper) for British ships to carry British goods to every riverside town in China, can go on wasting the public money in telegraphing them home, and getting, in reply, telegrams of congratulation such as closed the Blue Book of 1898, without their having the slightest appreciable effect on British trade.

THE STATE OF SHANTUNG.

(Daily Press, 31st January.)

The murder of the Rev. S. M. Brooks at Tai-an-fu draws attention to the present state of Shantung province. Twelve years ago Shantung was one of the best administered provinces in China; now it may rank with the worst. The fault is personal, and is not to be laid at the doors of the people who have not changed during the short period under review. A traveller in 1887 describes the difference between the peoples found when crossing the frontier in the Ichow prefecture. In Kiangsu he had been met by rudeness and obstruction, on his entering Shantung, at the very first village he was received with courtesy and even kindness, and he found the same feelings expressed through the whole province. At Tai-an indeed, a place of pilgrimage from times anterior to history, there was an element of rowdiness, and the sturdy beggars who infested the place showed symptoms of hostility. It was the old story of DEMETRIUS the Silversmith and the shrines of DIANA; but the authorities of the city very soon put an end to any symptoms of disturbance. The prefecture of Tsao-chow, in the extreme south-west of the province and part of Yenchow adjoining, have always traditionally borne an evil reputation, and stories of their raiding the more peaceful parts of the province were rife, but under the strong hand of the then Futai, CHANG-YEO, a Chinaman of fine physique, who had served with distinction in Turkestan, peace and good order prevailed everywhere. The soldiers, well drilled and well trained, were a real source of protection to the people, and apart from the drain on its resources arising from the unsettled condition of the Hwangho, the province was prosperous and contented. CHANG-YEO died poor; and in those two words lay the secret. He had turned the revenues of his government to their legitimate ends, and so had incurred the hostility of Peking. With the death of CHANG-YEO, and the appointment of the incapable FUJUN, another face of things

was seen, and everything in Shantung began to relapse. The memory of CHANG-YEO was scouted, his engagements repudiated and his trained troops dismissed. The hold of the Government on the people was relaxed, and outrages on foreigners, slight at first gradually increased in number. It was not however till in 1894, LI PING-HANG, type of everything bad and objectionable in Chinese officialdom, was appointed to the post of Futai, that affairs came to a climax. A conservative of the worst type, exactions of every sort became the rule; hostility to foreign residents was encouraged, the better disposed officials were replaced by creatures of his own; the money raised for Yellow River embankments was squandered amongst the office holders, and disorders of every sort were permitted to increase unchecked. The conservation works commenced by CHANG-YEO were neglected everywhere, and, as a consequence, the Yellow river burst its banks and floods and consequent famines were the result. Secret societies, the natural outcome of misgovernment, arose on all sides, and unable or careless to repress them, their members were given to understand that if they turned their energies against the Christians and the foreigners, no notice would be taken. Germany was looking out for an opening in Shantung and these disorders gave her the opportunity. The murder of two priests in Yenchow-fu opportunely followed, and the Germans sent the fleet, which they had been preparing, up to Kiaochow and took possession. They did more, for they insisted on the dismissal of the Futai, whose complicity, was too open to be concealed. Peking seemingly, complied, but if LI PING-HANG had been had his successor, YUHIEN, a Manchu, who had by his anti-foreign views ingratiated himself with the Empress Dowager, was even worse. Ignorant and fanatic he had not sufficient understanding to see that the only result of his predecessor's anti-foreign crusade had been to give the Germans the opening they sought. Isolated foreigners had hitherto been generally left alone, but under the encouraging reign of the new Futai, who almost openly promised immunity where only foreigners and Christians were concerned, the elements of misrule were let loose. Such is the present condition of what but a few years ago was one of the best conducted provinces of China. The people are not changed, but they are terrorised, and events which ten years ago were but a memory now occur daily. This is the position, nor is it confined to any one portion of the province, but reaches from Tehchow in the north-west to Ichow in the south-east. The attack on Mr. BROOKS, which resulted in his murder near Hsing Yung-hien, is only on a par with what has been going on in Ichow and Lints'ing. This is no case of *fengshui* disturbed nor buildings rented contrary to the wishes of the neighbours, but direct and unprovoked attack made on the open road and in the light of day, and is the signal of a series of barbarous attacks and robberies made against inoffensive peasants, whose sole crime is the profession of Christianity. The trouble in this case lies in the utter weakness of the real offending individual. One hesitates to administer condign punishment to a decrepid old man with one foot in the grave, and would rather have recourse to prevention. Yet how to put a straight waistcoat on these recalcitrant officials without raising worse difficulties is the problem of the hour. The real trouble is of course the usurpation of power by the Empress Dowager, one of the wickedest women in history. Most other usurpers of whom we learn had indeed the saving trait

of being good administrators, and made up for their personal crimes by the energy they infused into government. The present controller has taken care to surround herself with minions like KANG-YI, YUEN SHI-K'AI and others, whose only pretence to ability is craftiness, and whose personal crimes may well compare with her own. It is a serious undertaking to displace the ruler of four hundred and odd millions and erect a brand new administration; yet unless this be done, and done quickly, China must continue to fall with accelerated speed, till the feeble bonds which momentarily hold the country together snap with the increasing velocity, and the empire lies a helpless mass, a prey to every petty despoiler.

BRITISH RAILWAY UNDERTAKINGS IN ASIA, II.

(Daily Press, 29th January.)

From Karachi eastwards to China railways in British hands are already completed or in process of construction, but there are one or two important links which, in the event of such a line as that proposed by Mr. MORRIS, will need to be taken in hand. The first of these is a line through Rajputana, making a more direct line from Karachi to Agra. The present railway connects with the Punjab, and thence by Lahore with the direct lines, a detour, of several hundred miles, which in case of a thorough line being contemplated would have to be avoided by a direct railway across the Indian Desert, crossing the Indus somewhere about Hyderabad. Such a line owing to the shifting nature of the rivers crossed would require a considerable expenditure, but cannot be looked upon as impracticable. Greater difficulties would, however, be encountered in a connecting line between the Indian and Burmese systems, which would have to ascend the Brahmaputra to Sadiya, and thence through the mountainous country north-east of Manipur to the head waters of the Irrawadi. Sections of the work are already done, and in any event it is one which has always commended itself to the Indian Government; and sooner or later, independent of the project for extension to China was sure to be accomplished. Such a line would link with the present Railway system of Burma extending as far north as gaung, a little north of the 25th degree of N. Latitude, so that the proposed line though through unsettled territory would be of no great length. From Mandalay in lat. 22 degrees and E. long. 98 ft., would begin the first stage of the Chinese extension, a commencement of which has already been made in the construction of a line to Kunlong on the frontier; and this Mr. MORRIS proposes to extend to Tunchang-fu in Yunnan, situated, according to PLAYFAIR, lat. 25 degrees 05 feet; long. 99 degrees 26 feet, on the plateau between the Salwin and the Lantsean. There is no doubt that, under the most favourable conditions, the crossing of these rivers by a practicable line of railway will form one of the most formidable problems of engineering yet undertaken. It is impossible with our present knowledge to decide on the feasibility of any route; and all hitherto traversed have been across the river valleys; and as such have been a series of ascents and descents, frequently of several thousand feet. Doubtless a feasible route will be found, either up one of the depressions, or, possibly, where they are narrowest and steepest and afford a chance of throwing over one or more high level bridges. Arrived at Yunchang, Tali could apparently be

the next station, though that is doubtful. From this, however to Suifu, fewer obstacles would be found; and from that any practical line would keep will to the south of the Yangtze, and follow roughly the Chinese land route by the valleys of the Wu and Yuen rivers to the Tungting Lake, avoiding the gorges of the Yangtze below Chungking. The rest of the line will be made independently, at no very distant date and we have only sketched out those essential portions, where the connecting links would have to be made. Looked at in this light it is remarkable how small a portion of the line from Alexandria to the borders of China would have to be built outside either British territory or territory where British influence is predominant. And this brings us to the schemes what at the moment occupy the minds of the other Powers.

Although Russia and England possess between them it may be remarked, the keys of all possible trans-Asiatic lines, France and Germany have at both ends their own projects. In the concession of a line from the Bosphorus to the Persian Gulf, Germany will have a magnificent opening to Mid Asia, which cannot fail to be taken advantage of by her in pushing her interests in the whole of Asia Minor, and, as we have shown, Persia; for a line from the Caspian to Bassa would be the inevitable sequence of the Euphrates Valley Railway. Such a line could not end there, but would pave the way to a railway through Khorassan to Meshed and Herat, and so on to the boundaries of India, and it is certain that already Germany is seeking for influence in that quarter. Hitherto Herat has been looked upon as the one spot where Russia and England were at last to come in contact, either in friendly rivalry or in hostile strife. The new shuffle of the cards seems to point to Germany, having some to say with regard to this lonely spot, a few years ago looked upon us altogether out of the sphere of European discussion. We have spoken of the re-elevation of Bassa and lower Mesopotamia into an importance lost since the destruction of the empire of the Seleucids, but a rival seems not unlikely to arise further east, where Germany, Russia and England may meet on mutually advantageous terms. And this leads further to Russia's latest projects. The Central Asian line from Krasnovodsk to Merv along the Teppe Steppe, in connection with the Baku-Batumi Railway has never formed an efficient outlet for the Turcoman Khanates, nor indeed did it touch the most important, Khiva. Practically from south Russia two embankments and two landings were needed, and neither from a military nor a commercial point of view was the line ever considered as more than a temporary makeshift; which served a useful purpose indeed in reducing the Turkomans after Gok-tepi, but is not suited as a main line of approach. The Southern Russian lines have, however, been pushed across the Volga at Saratoff in lat. 52, into the Government of Ural'sk, and a continuation of this line through the Ust Turt to the fertile Khivan oasis at once recommended itself to the Russian Government, as being more feasible than the present round-about route. From an engineering point of view the line presents no difficulties whatever, them and no mountain ranges to be crossed, and water is always available from artesian wells. The line would strike the left bank of the lower Oxus at Kunozrad, and would follow it by Khiva to Charjui, where it would join the present line to Merv, Bokhara and Andijan. Such a line would bring the frontiers of Afghanistan within

less than three days of the Volga, and strategically must be met by the much talked of but never accomplished extension of the Punjab lines through Afghanistan to Herat. From every point of view then the triangle between Merv, Meshed and Herat likely to become a centre of importance in the future development of Asia.

Nor from an altogether Chinese point of view are these projects unimportant. The Siberian Railway already outflanks China's northern frontier. It is pretty certain that the Trans-Baikal line will before many years be directly connected with Peking by way of Urga, already occupied by a detachment of Russian troops. Already Andijan and Marghilan command the passes in the Alai range, and give Russia entrance at any moment to the basin of Eastern Turkestan. Yarkand and Kashgar and the other cities of the Altysahar, are in effect at the call of Russia at a day's notice, and with the Altysahar of course follow Khoten and the northern flank of the (so-called) Kwenlun mountains. The advantage then of the proposed "All-British" line cannot be overestimated. One of the illusions, which we hope will be removed by the present South African war, is that the Empire can afford to rest still while the rest of the world progresses; and another result will be the conviction that the British Empire is a real entity. England is the senior partner indeed, but her lusty children have joined, and not England; interests alone have to be considered, but those of Australia, of Canada, and the Cape. A British Railway from Capetown to Shanghai may seem what our American friends would call a 'Tall Order.' It is to be attained however at a much less sacrifice than the cost of the present campaign, and we hope one of the first fruits of the war will be to convince all the constituents of the Empire how much that empire needs tightening up.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

A mining engineering friend of mine; who for some time has been pottering around that impregnable stronghold, Weihaiwei, gives me a glowing account of that same place. As a health resort it will soon eclipse Chefoo—a not very difficult task I should imagine—but as a field for the investment of capital in mining operations it will soon appeal strongly to the "British people," i.e., China hands and home-made syndicates. It is wonderful the amount of eloquence those home syndicates can put into the China question, when the taking up of scrip gets them fairly under weigh. Still, in this case, the gentleman in question, who has sounded pretty nearly every foot of Weihaiwei ought to know. He reports that gold exists and the working of it can be made to pay, and already two syndicates, one the Yangtze Valley syndicate, have bought up about 5,000 *moio* of ground.

Gold mining has been carried on in the neighbourhood of Weihaiwei for centuries, but the natives only indulge in surface work. They decline to dig deep on account of the *feng shui*, that august spirit which in the Chinese mind, rules on high and below, and consequently has a somewhat heavy responsibility. Coal seams have also been struck but they have not yet proved good enough to work, yet go to show that coal is there, which is hardly a sufficient inducement to commence operations. At present the Commissioner can grant no mining concessions, but it is believed that Sir Claude Macdonald will be empowered to do so. He describes Weihaiwei as rapidly becoming a "small Gibraltar," with a nice bund, and a road already along the hillside.

Mr. Hugh Clifford, who has been appointed Governor of Borneo, will from all accounts have his hands fully occupied for some time to come, but he is a man who has proved himself to be

quite capable of performing the work required of him. When Mat Salleh is finished, which really shouldn't take long, there are a few institutions in the colony which require shaking up somewhat. He is the man to do it, too. He will rule an enormous extent of country, some 31,000 square miles, quite a kingdom in itself. The new Governor is a son of the late General Sir Henry Clifford, V.C., and a cousin of Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, and he married three years ago a daughter of the late Mr. Gilbert A. Beckett. Mr. Clifford entered the Malay Straits Civil Service when only seventeen, and step by step rose until he reached the important post of British Resident in Pahang. He soon distinguished himself as a Malayan scholar, and is the author of many interesting and valuable works on Malaya and its people.

This the Chinaman's festive period is productive of many things—chiefly applications for wages and other settlements, I find personally—and it is the period when our Celestial brother subject simply shines as a disciple of Ananias. The "boy's" grand-aunt having died, he wants to go home, he having polished off his nearer relations one by one in preceding years; he never compromises himself in a matter of fiction. He wants his wages "to send him wife, or him mudder," and so on. This year the arrival of a new emperor gives him a further excuse. "Must chin-chin him homeside or no belong good joss!" So we are reluctantly compelled to yield to his importunate loyalty.

The other day I received a most wonderful appeal for settlement from my shoemaker, which is worthy of reproduction. I am not certain whether he or his secretary graduated at Queen's College or the Diocesan School, but he certainly has a charming regard for detail about his friend's virtues and his own misfortunes that should appeal to the benighted customer who is slow in paying up in this due season. Thus the appeal:—

Dear Sir,—I beg to inform you that since the year before last I employ a Chinese *** as a headman to see customers and bargain goods in my shop as well as a shroff of my shop. At first I thought he is an honest man; so that I often trusted him entirely and on him always I depended to carry on all the business. But unfortunately he is a cunning fellow, being unfaithful, he intended to cheat me secretly. He, forging the chop of my shop, makes money by taking away all the job from my shop to another shop. Now, I had inquired upon this, and I know that he had opened another shop, and had taken all the work, that had been ordered by my customer in my shop, to his own. Though we got so many work in the shop, yet I got no profit; because he made the shoes himself and received the money as his own. He also claims wages from me. Some days ago, there was a customer came to ask about his shoes, which he had ordered in my shop. It happened that he, the above said man, was not at shop just at that time. Hunting all over the 'bargain list, I could not find out that customer's name. Asking all the workmen about it, they said the headman, had not told them to make such shoes. So we can plainly understand that he had taken away all my profit. I also heard that *** had acknowledged himself to be a brother or a son of me before all the customers. But conversely see he is not a little relation to Hut Yang. So we can plainly see that he is crafty. So cunning a man we can not employ nor rely on. Now I had already discharged him. If the above said man, ever since come to see you, gentleman, and says that he comes from Hut Yang, he is merely cheating. Please don't believe him, don't be tempted by him. I humbly beg you with all my heart, to drive him away. Hereafter I always send my nephew, Song Shau Iok, with my shop's showing card to go to see my customer as well as a shroff of my shop. When you, gentleman, like to patronize me, intending to order for some shoes please tell my nephew, Shau Iok, and whenever you get account to pay me, please offer it to him, my nephew. Or you may order for shoes personally in my shop; or you may send a person, your coolie, or any one for it as you please.

You, gentleman, got so much favour to me patronizing me before time, I am always very grateful.

I tell this truth Being afraid that you, gentleman, will be defrauded by him, I make the matter known and report it straightly by this note. I remain, sir,

HUT YANG.
Shoes-maker.

What a tale of wickedness this doth unfold?
OBSERVER.

SUPREME COURT.

26th January.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN
(ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE) AND
A SPECIAL JURY.

ALLEGED LIBEL BY A CHINESE NEWSPAPER —JUDGMENT FOR THE PLAINTIFF.

In this case U. Nervegna, of Wyndham Street, merchant, claimed from Wong Shu Tong, of 14, Praya Central, as proprietor of the *Tsun Wan Yat Po*, and Ng Sai Jung, of 39 Gough Street, as printer and publisher of the said newspaper, damages for libel.

The following composed the jury:—Messrs. J. Orange (foreman), F. D. Goddard, D. W. Craddock, V. A. Caesar-Hawkins, John Thurburn, A. Turner, and E. Osborne. It was agreed that the jurors should be remunerated at the rate of \$10 a day each.

Mr. Slade (instructed by Messrs. Mounsey and Brutton) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Robinson and Mr. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Mr. C. Ewens), appeared for the defendants, Mr. Robinson for the first defendant and Mr. Francis for the second.

His Lordship, in summing up, said—Gentlemen of the jury, this is an action of libel brought by Mr. Nervegna, a merchant carrying on business in this colony, against the first defendant, as one of the proprietors, and the second defendant, as the printer and publisher of a Chinese daily newspaper called the *Tsun Wan Yat Po*, claiming damages against the defendants for a paragraph which appeared in the issue of 9th June, 1899. The plaintiff alleges that the paragraph in question contains a false and defamatory libel reflecting upon his character and reputation as a merchant, and he has brought this action, I presume, to vindicate his character and to ask you to award him substantial damages such as may make some reparation to him for the injury done to his reputation and the pecuniary loss he alleges he has sustained by reason of the alleged libel. It appears that for a short time, the plaintiff acted as merchant Consul for Italy for the two provinces of Kiangtung and Kwangsi in China, till he was relieved at his own request by Lieutenant Guida about August, 1898. It also appears that he acted in a similar capacity, i.e. as merchant consul for Italy at Hongkong, until he was relieved by the present regular Italian Consul, Mr. Volpicelli, about May or June, 1899. No evidence has been given of any impropriety on the part of the plaintiff, either as a merchant or as Acting Consul, and he handed over his temporary appointments to gentlemen in the regular Consular service of Italy in ordinary course and at his own wish. The plaintiff stated in his evidence that he had opened a branch of his business at Wuchow, in November, 1898, and between November, 1898, and June, 1899, had made a profit over and above all expenses of \$3,000. He also stated that he had had considerable business transactions with the Kwong Tung Lun Tai firm at Canton and was negotiating three contracts with them; dated, as to two of the written sold notes, June 2nd, 1899, and as to the third, dated June 6th, 1899, when, on 9th June, 1899, the paragraph complained of appeared in the defendant's newspaper. It was written in Chinese, but the translation is as follows:—

"We learn that a certain merchant who had once acted as Italian consul at Canton at U, has in consequence of certain affairs been reprimanded and dismissed. Recently, the said merchant had conspired with the Chinese to work a certain coal mine, and relying on the protection of a foreign flag resisted and refused to pay lekin. This the high authorities have found

out from enquiries made, and decided to thoroughly investigate the matter. It is not known what may happen afterwards.

Now, in the first place, it will be for you to decide whether that paragraph refers to the plaintiff. In view of the evidence and of the fact that Mr. Francis, the experienced counsel for the second defendant, admitted that there must be a verdict against a client (although he argued it should be for a small amount only) you will probably have no difficulty in deciding whether the plaintiff was alluded to. It not, there is an end of the cases. But assuming that you find that the plaintiff was the party referred to in that paragraph, what are the facts? The plaintiff has sworn that he was neither reprimanded nor dismissed from the Consularship. He has sworn that he never had anything whatever to do with working any coal mine with Chinese or anybody else, although he has imported coal to Canton. As regards resisting or refusing to pay lekin, his evidence was as follows:—"I have protested against payment of a portage charge which was not due and was in excess of the lekin and proper charges. I have never relied on the protection of a foreign flag to avoid payment of lekin. I have always paid it at Capsuimun, duty, lekin, obingles (whatever that may mean) and I paid under protest portage at Canton." He also states that his protests are still under consideration in Peking. No evidence has been called to contradict the plaintiff's statements, and in face of his uncontradicted evidence, what possible justification could there be to publish such a paragraph as appeared in the newspaper of 9th June about him? Is the paragraph true or false? Is it defamatory or not? If you find the allegations are false and defamatory then it constitutes a libel and is actionable. A libel is a publication without justification or lawful excuse calculated to injure the reputation of another by exposing him to hatred, contempt, or ridicule. It is for you to consider whether, under the circumstances in which this paragraph appeared, reasonable men who read it would be likely to understand it in a libellous sense. As regards the allegation that the publication was false and malicious, there are occasions when actual malice must be proved, as for instance where the occasion is a privileged one. The present case raises no question of privilege, and if the statement is false and defamatory the law infers malice unless there is some justification for the publication. No such justification has been proved or attempted to be proved in this case, and therefore you will probably be of opinion that the paragraph in question is a libel giving rise to a claim for damages. It will be better to consider the question of liability and damages as regards the two defendants separately. I will take the case of the second defendant first. He is the printer and publisher of the paper, and is liable for having published this libel, assuming that you find it to be a libel. The plaintiff has set out a somewhat elaborate innuendo or allegation as to the meaning of the libel. I am inclined to think that this is a little overdone, and I would suggest to you to read the words in the light of the evidence, and attach such meaning as you think that reasonable men reading them would be likely to attach to them. If the plaintiff shows a good cause of action, taking the words in their natural meaning, he is entitled to succeed even if he cannot show they meant everything contained in the elaborate innuendo. In assessing damages you are, as that great judge, Baron Parke, laid down, entitled to look at the whole conduct of the defendants from the time the libel was published down to the time you give your verdict. Mr. Francis has called your attention to the insertion of Mr. Volpicelli's letter in the issue of the 16th June, 1899. It is for you to consider whether that insertion, accompanied by the editorial comment, is any pillation of the libel. Was that the sort of corrective or antidote the plaintiff might fairly have expected to be administered to correct the poison of the libel? 'It may be,' says the editor, 'that the former letter from our friend (i.e. the libel) is not true and complete.' That is a poor sort of corrective. One would have looked for an expression of regret and withdrawal rather. Now in view of the fact that libels occasionally creep into respectable papers, a remedy is provided by Ordinance 3 of 1887 which allows offer of an apology to be given in evidence in mitigation

of damages and which also allows a plea that the libel was inserted without actual malice and without gross negligence, and that full apology was inserted at the earliest opportunity, and a sum of money has been paid into Court by way of amends. The defendants have not taken advantage of this Ordinance. No such apology has been forthcoming and no money has been paid into Court. Coming, now, to the question of damages, this is specially a matter for the jury to decide. In the present case both general and special damages are claimed. General damages are such as the law will presume to be the natural and probable consequences of the defendant's conduct. Such damages may be recovered wherever the immediate tendency of the words is to impair the plaintiff's reputation, although no actual pecuniary loss has in fact resulted. Such damages under this head should be given as, in your opinion, will fairly compensate the plaintiff for the injury done to his reputation by the libel. After the speeches of counsel on both sides, I may fairly leave the amount to you to settle as regards general damages.

Passing to the question of special damage, I may point out that special damage is 'such a loss as the law will not presume to have followed from the libel, but which depends on the special circumstances of the case and must be claimed in the pleadings and proved at the trial.'

Paragraph 8 of the Petition deals with the alleged special damage in the case of the official An Lap Sam at Wuchow, while paragraph 9 deals with the special transactions with the Kwong Tung Lun Tai firm at Canton, and paragraph 10 deals with the refusal of that firm after the libel to have any further transactions with the plaintiff. The evidence is fresh in your minds, the documents put in will be handed to you and you will bear in mind the remarks of counsel for both sides on the subject. As regards the Kwong Tung Lun Tai firm you will remember their letter to the plaintiff in which the writer states that having seen the paragraph in question, 'I became much frightened lest I should be involved in trouble. After thoroughly considering the matters, I feel constrained to call your attention to it and to give you notice that my connections in all business transactions in which you and I are interested must cease from to-day with a view to avoid unforeseen evils.' You have heard the plaintiff's evidence, and if that letter is genuine and all business has ceased between that firm and the plaintiff on account of the libel, to the loss and detriment of the plaintiff, undoubtedly he is entitled to special damage. When you have assessed general and special damage you will be able to arrive at the total damage you think will meet the justice and requirements of the case.

In the olden days the Press was more or less gagged. Now a newspaper can publish what it pleases, subject to take the legal consequence of any libel which it may contain. As regards, therefore, the second defendant, if you find that he was the printer and publisher of the libel, and assess the damages, there can be no doubt of his liability. Passing to the case of the first defendant it has been argued that although he is one of the proprietors of the paper, yet that, having entered into a contract with the second defendant which it is alleged makes the second defendant lessee of the paper, on payment of an annual sum of \$2,000 to the proprietors, the first defendant cannot be held civilly liable for any libel appearing in the paper. The document has been put in evidence, and it will be for you to judge whether it is a genuine and *bona fide* document. Assuming that it is, it remains for me to lay down my views of the law in the circumstances. Lord Kenyon, in the case of *Rex v. Walter*, 3 Espinasses Report's, p. 21, said, "he was clearly of opinion that the proprietor of a newspaper was answerable criminally as well as civilly for the acts of his servants or agents for misconduct in conducting a newspaper." So far as civil liability no alteration has been made in the law from that date relieving a proprietor from such a liability. Then Lord Tenterden, in *Rex v. Gutch* and others, in 1829, reported in 1 Moody and Malkin's Reports, p. 433, adopts at p. 437 the same view and says it is conformable to principle and common sense. "Surely," says he, "a person who derives profit from and who furnishes means for carrying on

the concern and entrusts the publication to one whom he selects and in whom he confides, may be said to cause to be published what actually appears although you cannot show that he was individually concerned in the particular publication. It would be exceedingly dangerous to hold otherwise, for then an irresponsible person might be put forward and the person really producing the publication and without whom it would not be published might remain behind and escape altogether." In the present case the first defendant is admitted to be one of the proprietors, and I cannot hold that because he and his partners (to whom the paper belonged long before this arrangement with the second defendant) receive a fixed revenue of 2,000 dollars per annum from the newspaper instead of a sum varying from year to year according to the earnings of the paper; therefore, he is absolved from all civil liabilities for any libels inserted in the paper. What is the second defendant but the agent of the first defendant to carry on and keep alive the proprietor's newspaper. The proprietors can get rid of the second defendant if they do not approve of his conduct of their paper. The letting is for no fixed number of years even. The payment of 2,000 dollars is to be made yearly, but no time is fixed for the duration of the agreement, which indeed is not even signed by the first defendant or his co-proprietors but only by the second defendant. To hold that an arrangement of that kind can absolve the proprietors from civil liability would open a most dangerous door to putting forward irresponsible persons as so-called lessees, while the real proprietors are deriving profits whether fixed or otherwise from the paper itself.

I hold, therefore, in point of law the arrangement in question does not absolve the first defendant from his civil liability for any libel in the paper. Will you, therefore, gentlemen, find such verdict as you think right with regard to the first and also to the second defendant, and assess such damages as you think right and proper in all the circumstances of the case, taking with you the papers which have been given in evidence in the case.

His Lordship finished his summing up at half-past 11.

The jury retired to consider their verdict, returning after an absence of half-an hour.

The Clerk (Mr. J. W. Jones)—Gentlemen of the jury, have you agreed upon your verdict?

The Foreman (Mr. Orange)—We have.

The Clerk—How say you?

The Foreman—Verdict for the plaintiff against both the defendants, damages \$11,370.

His Lordship—I am much obliged to you for your attendance, and the attention you have given to this case.

THE SHELL-COLLECTING MONOPOLY.

PROCEEDINGS AT THE SUPREME COURT AND THE MAGISTRACY.

Among the cases down for hearing at the Supreme Court on the 26th ult., before Mr. Justice Wise (Puisne Judge), were five in which junk-owners were sued by Lai Po and Leung Lai Tong, the following being the particulars of claim:—"The plaintiffs as lessees from Her Majesty the Queen of a certain piece or parcel of ground covered by the sea off the eastern shore of the island of Lantau, in the colony of Hongkong, claim from the defendant the sum of \$100, being damages for the wrongful act of the defendant in trespassing upon the said premises and taking therefrom certain shells and corals, the property of the plaintiffs, on or about the 18th December, 1899, and their costs of suit.

Mr. Grist, for the defendants, asked that the cases might be adjourned *sine die*.

His Lordship agreed to this.

Mr. Looker, for the plaintiffs, asked his Lordship his reason for doing this.

His Lordship declined to say.

At the Magistracy yesterday afternoon, before Mr. Gompertz, Wan Kwong, Wing Ping, Chu Fuk, Wan Chu and Wing Shing, junk owners, were charged at the instance of the Lee Hing Company with stealing shells and corals from the eastern shore of Lantau Island.

Mr. Looker (Messrs. Deacon and Hastings) appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Francis, Q. C. (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the defence.

On the application of Mr. Francis, it was agreed to take the cases separately.

The case against Wan Kwong was taken first. He was charged with stealing 20 piculs of coral and shells of the value of \$1.

Mr. Looker said the facts of the case were as follows. On the 20th December, 1899, by a crown lease made between His Excellency Sir Henry Blake, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen, on the one part, and Chau Kwai Chu and Lai Hok Tsun on the other part, all that piece of ground covered by the sea on the eastern shore of Lantau was leased to complainant for a term of five years, from the 7th of October, 1899, at a yearly rental of \$300, and there was a provision in the agreement whereby which the lessees were not allowed to erect any building or use the same for any other purpose than that of searching for corals and shells in the bed of the sea, so as not to interfere with fishing and navigation. He submitted that the effect of that lease was to lease to the complainants a piece of land under the sea for the purpose of obtaining coral from it. The defendant was master of a junk or an employee on board a junk, and on the 12th January last, he being then anchored or cruising about in waters round about Lantau which covered this particular piece of ground, was gathering coral and shell from the bed of a piece of land leased to complainants, coral and shells which by virtue of this lease belonged to the complainants, and took them away. The defendant was caught red-handed by the police and he was charged with simple larceny.

Mr. Francis, interrupting, contended that there was no possibility of a charge of larceny being sustained, and that the case should have been made the subject of a civil action.

Mr. Looker argued the other way, but as his Worship seemed inclined to adopt Mr. Francis's view Mr. Looker suggested that a postponement should be granted to enable him to look up the point. He said he was taken by surprise by the turn the defence had taken.

Mr. Francis opposed an adjournment, and pointed out that civil actions were pending against three of the defendants.

His Worship declined to grant an adjournment and dismissed the case, the other cases being also dismissed.

SAD ACCIDENT ON THE U.S. GUN-BOAT "WHEELING."

TWO MEN KILLED AND THREE SERIOUSLY INJURED.

Saturday being the German Emperor's birthday, the warships in the harbour were decorated and at noon salutes were fired. While a salute was being fired on the U.S. gunboat *Wheeling* a sad accident occurred. One of the guns missed fire, and the gun's crew were examining into the cause of the jam when an explosion which burst open the break block occurred. Gunners Mate and Campbell were killed instantly, Lieutenant-Commander F. E. Beatty, Gunners Nelson, Conray, and Bite were seriously injured. Nelson died yesterday morning.

KANG YU-WEI GOES TO SINGAPORE.

Kang-Yu-Wei, who has been living quietly in Hollywood Road, Hongkong for sometime, left for Singapore on Saturday in the P. and O. steamer *Bombay*, travelling under an assumed name. He was accompanied to the steamer by an escort of police.

The Manila *Commercio* thinks England has not only to fear an alliance between France and Russia, but a third power may be allied against her in case of further adverse events in South Africa. The third power, says the *Commercio*, is Spain. Next!

The British steamer *Libelle*, recently sold at Singapore by the Borneo Company, Limited, to Messrs. Gutierrez Hermanos, Manila, is now under the Spanish flag under the name of *Magallanes*. The German steamer *Sulu*, of Singapore, has also been sold to a firm at Manila. The British steamer *McAlister* and the British barque *Spinaway* lately sold there to another firm at Manila, were to leave on the 23rd ult.

THE ENGINEERS' INSTITUTE.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

On Saturday evening the ninth annual general meeting in connection with the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong was held at the rooms, No. 3, Praya Central. The chair was occupied by the President of the Institution (Mr. D. Gillies), who was supported by Messrs. R. Cooke, J. W. Kinghorn, N. Mumford, W. Ramsay, Owen Ordish, A. Bain, J. Kyles, J. Murchie, T. C. Hutchings, T. Skinner, A. Ritchie, and C. B. Buyers.

THE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The following is the report of the Committee of Management for the year 1899:—"At the beginning of the year the Committee thought it advisable (owing to the many complaints from members), to seek new quarters with better accommodation for the Institute, and after careful enquiry brought the matter before the members at two extraordinary general meetings with the result that we moved into these premises on the first of July, and the rooms were formally opened on the 15th July by H.E. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G. The Committee are aware that it was a very big step to take, but they venture to think that the present balance sheet will prove that the change has not been a failure. The work of the Institution has been carried on during the year with some degree of success which is very gratifying to the Committee, as showing that the members appreciate the change of rooms and the increased accommodation. There has been a steady increase of the membership during the year, amounting to nearly 29 per cent. of ordinary members and about 19 per cent. of visiting members, and the roll now stands as follows:—Ordinary members 233, visiting members 110, associate members 3, honorary members 2, total 348. We regret to record the loss by death of four members, namely, Messrs. W. A. Greenhill, W. H. Marshall, T. M. Dow, D. McGlashan. We have drawn out a syllabus of the various meetings to be held during the session, and it is gratifying to record that our request for papers resulted in no less than six being promised, three of these have been read and circulated among the members; the meetings have been well attended and the discussions full of interest. These meetings were interspersed with a smoking concert on each alternate Saturday, and they have been much appreciated by the members. The Committee take this opportunity of thanking all those who so kindly assisted at these functions, and they wish to put it on record that at one of these social gatherings the sum of \$100 was contributed towards the "Missis and Kids Fund." A dance was given in the City Hall on the 22nd December, under the auspices of the Institute, and was voted a complete success. Before opening the new rooms the furniture was all overhauled and put in good order and the billiard tables were re-covered. The Billiard Tournament among the shore members was very well contested, but was eventually won by our veteran champion, Mr. R. V. Rutter. The mixed handicap is not yet completed, but is making good progress."

The PRESIDENT, in proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, said:—Gentlemen,—The report gives a very clear and succinct statement of the most prominent events that have taken place during the period under review, and if we can be guided by the figures presented to us we have every reason to conclude that the Institution of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong is not only in the happy position of having succeeded in gaining the confidence and support of its members, but it has also in a large degree attained the object for which the Institution was originally formed. (Hear, hear.) Amongst other topics of interest which have been brought before us were three most excellent lectures on subjects which possess a very great interest for engineers. The first of these was a lecture on the uses of aluminium in constructive work and its adaptability to shipbuilding and engineering. Nickel and aluminium and nickel steel are both coming into use as substitutes for ordinary mild steel in the construction of boilers. Experiments have demonstrated that nickel steel of 20 to 25 per cent. of nickel will have as regards corrosion a vastly longer life than mild steel, and as regards deterioration from the action of heated gases, steam and salt water (at least twice the

durability of mild steel. To shipowners and others the growing importance of aluminium and nickel is a matter of great practical interest. The lecture on this subject was treated in a very able and exhaustive manner by Mr. Hobson, constructor, United States Navy. Our next lecture was given by our well known and very highly esteemed friend Mr. W. C. Jack, on "The Utilisation of Light Draught Steamers on the Waterways of China." Now that the inland waters of that vast empire are likely to be opened up to foreign trade before many years, the construction of steamers of light draft will be an absolute necessity, and in building such vessels the ideas and experience of Mr. Jack so fully expressed in his paper will be found of great value to both owner and shipbuilder. The next lecture was given by Mr. Everall on "The Electrical Transmission of Power." There is now a general tendency amongst engineers and shipbuilders to take the machine tool to the piece which is to be machined and not "vice versa," as has been hitherto the custom. By the application of electric power a large amount of time can be saved, for while say a cylinder is on the boring mill all the drilling, tapering and studding may be done by small electric borers. In many of the modern workshops at home both large and small machines are being driven by electric power, while many of the larger class of tools are driven by a motor connected to the tool direct, so that in the case of night work there is no loss of power in driving a long line of shafting and pulleys, as the motor power consumed is only what is actually necessary to drive the tool itself, and so favourably has the Dock Company become impressed with the advantages of electric power, that we intend to introduce it into the new workshops in course of construction at Kowloon, and drive all the machines and tools one, 50 ton and two 25 ton travelling cranes. To the gentlemen who have given us so much valuable information in the three lectures referred to, the members of this Institute are certainly under a deep and lasting debt of gratitude. The change that was so happily made in coming to the rooms we now occupy appears to have fully justified the recommendation of your Committee in every respect, as they are not only most comfortable and commodious, but they are likewise central, and from the large increase in the membership, we may reasonably infer that you all more or less appreciate the new location.

Mr. W. S. BAILEY, in seconding, gave a number of figures to show the progress made by the Institution during the year.

Mr. R. MITCHELL supported.

A discussion took place with regard to certain items in the accounts, the motion of the President being subsequently carried.

DEPARTED MEMBERS.

The PRESIDENT made an appropriate reference to the members of Institution who have died during the year. He observed that he had no doubt these gentlemen were well known to most of the members present, and he proposed that letters of condolence be sent to their relatives.

This was agreed to.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE, ETC.

The ballot for the Committee resulted as follows:—Messrs W. Ramsay, H. S. Bridges, J. W. Kinghorn, D. MacDonald, N. Mumford, A. G. Aitken, A. Ritchie, W. C. Jack, T. Banks, J. Kyles, and J. Kirkwood.

Mr. KINGHORN asked to be allowed to retire from the committee, so that younger men might get into harness.

The PRESIDENT and others endeavoured to dissuade Mr. Kinghorn from retiring, the valuable work he has done for the Institution being emphasised. Mr. Kinghorn, however, could not see his way to accede to the request, and on the motion of Mr. MUMFORD, seconded by Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. Kinghorn was appointed a vice-president of the Institution.

Mr. GILLIES was re-elected President; Mr. Owen Ordish was appointed secretary, Mr. Everall treasurer, and Messrs. W. C. Jack and Murphy auditors.

On the motion of Mr. MACDONALD, seconded by Mr. BAILEY, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the retiring committee for their services.

A vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Gillies for his attendance, on the motion of Mr. COOKE.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN FUND.

'SAILORS AND SOLDIERS' FAMILIES FUND.' The undersigned begs to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the following subscriptions to the above fund.

T. JACKSON,
Hon. Treasurer.

Further subscriptions will be thankfully received.

Already acknowledged	\$94,552.77
Captain, officers and ship's company H.M.S. <i>Undaunted</i> (further subscription)	456.25
Do. do. do. (third subscription)	285.90
Buttonholes at Concert	24
Police at Fu Ti An	19
Joe	15
J. H. K.	10
Queen's College boys, further subscription	1
	\$95,363.92

THE CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES.

MOB RULES ARCHBISHOP CHAPPELLE'S
RECEPTION.

DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT TOWARD THE POPE'S
REPRESENTATIVES.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

The reception given by the Philippine clergy to Archbishop Chappelle yesterday afternoon was the scene of the most disgraceful demonstrations. When the announcement was made that the clergy would give a public reception, it caused considerable comment, but nobody anticipated such excitement as actually took place.

The guests arrived early in the afternoon and the house near the governor's palace was soon filled with a mass of about five hundred people, representing the best class of Filipinos. Many ladies were present, among the number being the families of Florentino Torres, the attorney general of Pardo de Tavera and Burgos. A crowd gradually collected in the street, until it numbered about two thousand persons drawn from the orderly classes.

In addition to the invited guests a large number of clergymen and friars were present. Chappelle was received by the Spanish Archbishop Nozaleda, the Archbishop of Cebu and several high church dignitaries. After several minutes of conversation in which, however, some excitement was noticeable, the lady-principal of a municipal school commenced to read a petition to Archbishop Chappelle asking that the friars be withdrawn. It is said that she is the same woman who created such excitement by her speech at the Rizal memorial celebrations a few weeks ago, but this is not definitely known. The Archbishop stopped her, saying that this was a question that would be treated by the Pope, General Otis and himself. It was also suggested that this was neither the time nor the place for the presentation of such a document. Almost spontaneously the entire crowd broke out in loud cries and exclamations of "Out with the friars," "down with Nozaleda," "We won't have friars in any capacity." For a few moments pandemonium reigned, then the street element took up the cries and repeated them with increased force. None of the clergymen attempted any answer but all remained quiet in the midst of the turmoil. General Otis entered and the shouting was immediately renewed, but this time they were in the form of "Viva Otis, Viva los Americanos." (Shrewd people these Filipinos.) Chappelle greeted the governor very affectionately as did also Nozaleda. Groups of excited citizens gesticulated and argued about the room, and for a few moments the archbishops and the general were forgotten in the heat of the discussions, and then the exclamations began again. Some of the consuls left and then Gen. Otis departed amid renewed cheering and drove off in his carriage. In the meantime, in the house the confusion was increasing, a dozen men were shouting at one time and calling for the expulsion of the friars and the retirement of the Spanish Archbishop Nozaleda. In a few minutes Nozaleda called

for his carriage and as he got in and drove down the street he was greeted with the choicest of Spanish epithets. The whole affair was most disgraceful and public opinion censures the extreme discourtesy of the offenders, but it also condemns the imprudence of the friars and clergymen for allowing such a demonstration, at such a time when the whole country is wrought up over the religious question.

Gradually the crowd dispersed, and long before the curfew hour the street was quiet. In talking over the matter with a Spanish gentleman last night, I asked him, what would the Spaniards have done under such circumstances; and he replied that there would have been about two thousand five hundred arrests, and a hundred executions and long imprisonments ordered in the morning. But that was an echo of the old days and now the church and state are widely separated. So far as any visible sign is concerned, the military authorities have taken no notice of the affair. To-day the Spanish papers are lashing themselves into a fury over the incident.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Sandakan, 21st January.

THE PUNITIVE EXPEDITION.

Telegraphic intelligence has been received here that the Mat Salleh Punitive Expedition, under Captain Harrington (one of Jameson's famous Raiders), commandant, has had an engagement with the enemy, in the Tambunan country. The enemy, to a considerable number, were found in a defended village; the small guns were got to bear on the place at noon, but it was not until the evening of the following day that a plucky dash, led by Lieut. Dansey sub-commandant, finally captured the position. The enemy lost 60 men killed and wounded and the village was razed to the ground. The enemy had 500 rifles, which they were ordered to lay down, but the message does not say if they did. Mat Salleh's followers have fallen back on their two forts, and there will be some trouble encountered in dislodging them. It is said these forts are well planned, and very strongly built, and heavier guns will have to be got up if the places are to be forced. It was thought at first that Mat Salleh had but a small following, but it is now learned that his force numbers about 1,500, which would look as though someone were helping him that the Government had not reckoned with; additional colour is lent to this view from the fact that the expedition has already knowledge of 500 rifles, which number could hardly have been smuggled in through any port in this territory. Should Mat Salleh now make a raid on the coast it is thought Kudat would be his objective point.

THE NEW GOVERNOR.

Our new Governor, Hugh Clifford, Esq., has gone to Sarawak, but is expected here shortly, per H.M.S. *Hermione*, by which vessel it is expected, Admiral Keppel will also arrive. The veteran Admiral, who is familiar with these waters, is simply coming on a visit, and will doubtless receive a warm welcome.

SHIPPING.

The E. I. S. S. Co.'s s.s. *Kelantan* has arrived at Labuan, and has been quarantined, having small-pox on board, so it is learned by cable received this afternoon from there. This will probably mean 9 days' delay or more before being released.

The news that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s s.s. *Mausang* is returning to the Hong-kong-Borneo run has given the greatest possible satisfaction here. There would appear to be ample cargo upwards for two steamers now, and it is hoped the working in conjunction will proceed perfectly satisfactorily.

The *Straits Times*, in endeavouring to augment the auxiliary forces in Singapore by opening a list for signature by British subjects of unmixed European race who are willing to serve in Singapore as Rifle Volunteers, on any reasonable terms that shall be laid down by the Officer Administering the Government. On the 24th ult. 130 names had been received. At present the Singapore Volunteer Corps consists only of artillery armed with maxim guns. The riflemen will no doubt be a welcome acquisition to this smart little corps.

RACING NOTES.

Work on the track is proceeding merrily, and it is gratifying to observe the absence of groggy ponies. The screwing up process may find a few of the bad legged ones out later on, but so far the gruel has been taken kindly, and there are no disagreeable external symptoms.

The Derby candidates for this year's race are twenty-five in number, as against twenty-one last year. They are a good-looking lot, and represent thirteen different owners.

The Jockey Club are to be commended on their action to suppress the Chinese professional gambler. The heathen is, however, a wily chap, and even under the altered conditions will take a lot of watching.

Nine thousand four hundred and forty-four dollars is a lot to sacrifice, in the pursuance of what some people would call so small a cause. This sum would, beyond a doubt, have been realised over and above the \$945 obtained at the sale on Tuesday, were it not for the club's announced intention, referred to in the preceding paragraph.

The total number of entries are in excess of last years. The Challenge Cup of 100, guineas presented by Mr. J. J. Bell-Irving, has attracted the largest field, and fifty-nine ponies have been written down as possible competitors. Despite the stipulated condition, that the cup has to be won by the same owner two years in succession before it passes from the club's trust, the race is evidently popular. The Consolation Stakes has appealed to the owners of forty-two, but as the list includes the names of most of the cracks, it is reasonable to predict that quite a large number of them will disappear before the third day, owing of course to the fact that only beaten ponies are eligible to compete.

The scarcity of griffens this season, and the continued advance in their value, makes the subject of introducing Australian ponies for racing purposes, more interesting than it would otherwise be. The possibilities have been freely discussed both here and in Shanghai. In the latter place, owing to some extent to its contiguity to the source from which the griffins are drawn, the consensus of opinion is opposed to such an innovation. Here however there are a few enthusiasts who would not hesitate to try the experiment. Fairly good Australians can be procured readily enough, and at reasonable prices. There are hundreds running at suburban race meetings, round and about the metropolitan centres, and most of them are of about equal calibre.

These would be purchased and would provide more interesting sport than the best of the local ponies. It must not be inferred from the preceding remark, relating to price, that all the ponies referred to could be purchased cheaply. On the contrary, the cracks, who invariably find their way to India, often realise as much as four thousand dollars. It is the Indian demand for champions that really equalises the calibre of the racing fields.

Opinions differ as to whether the foreigner would train on in this climate. There appears to be no reason why he should not. He does well in Singapore, and in all parts of India and several good judges of local conditions, express opinions to the effect that his training here would not be a difficult operation.

It is quite certain that the introduction would create a revolution in racing, but it is question, able, if the effect would be satisfying, or even lasting. The average Australian racing pony is aristocratically bred and suprisingly fast, in fact in all respects he is a miniature racehorse, and provides equally good sports. But, although as previously indicated, the initial cost would probably not exceed that of the China pony, the chances are that the outsider would require more attention, and consequently prove costlier in the long run. Racing, as it is conducted in this part of the East is not comparatively speaking, an expensive luxury, and this fact accounts to a material extent for its general

popularity. The discussed innovation might make it so and sit is therefore unlikely that the majority would take to it kindly unless indeed the difficulty of procuring griffens increase.

Some of our local magnates might, as an experiment obtain a certain number from the South for next season, and the club could confine their to them our class. The mixed racing would be an extra attraction and the possibility of racing the stranger here would be thoroughly tested.

The Derby candidates Ting Haon, Strategist and Thunderstorm, are the whispered likelihoods for the local blue riband of the turf. The firstnamed is a nippy little piebald, and appeals to me more than either of the others. He is a combination of colour, condition and conformity, and unless early impressions are erroneous, he will have something to say when the whips are cracking in the classic event. Carrying Mr. Gresson, he put a mile and a half behind him on Saturday last in 3.32, thereby establishing a record for this season's work. The performance was a very fair one and impressed most of the wary watchers.

Strategist may be appropriately named, and succeeded in outwitting his opponents. He is deserving of some special attention, if only on account of his honoured position in the weights. Eleven stone seven, or six pounds more than any of the others, is his allotted portion. His height may not be an advantage, but appearances are distinctly in his favour, and he will probably carry his extra weight as well as the lightly laden division.

Thunderstorm is getting plenty of what stable boys call long strong, and seems to be thriving on it. The experienced Mr. Burkill will direct his destiny in the Derby, and the number of his followers will be augmented in consequence.

Cossack, the Rascal, and Tartar, Rescue, Orange Blossom, and Snow King, Reserve, Sartow and Impala seem to be the best of the subscription griffins. Some of the others may not be standing up to the watch and it is unsafe to make a declaration against their ability until the day draws closer.

The style of riding is a constant subject of discussion among Eastern amateurs, and various are the opinions advanced in favour of one and another. Matthew Dawson and Robinson, two of the best known English trainers, and Huggins, their successful American compeer, have ideas on the subject as wide apart as the various planets. It is therefore not surprising to find such a diversity of opinion among enthusiasts who, to say the least of it, are not so experienced as the professionals in question. Dawson, Huggins & Co. however discuss the situation from two standpoints only. The Englishman asserts that it is impossible for a lad riding several holes short, and crouching forward over his horse's withers to do his mount justice in a vigorous finish. The American on the other hand claims, and with a good deal of reason too, that the crouching forward relieves the horse, and better enables him to carry his weight. The fact remains however, that the representative cousins are equally capable, and the advantage, if any, of either style will forever remain a debatable subject. The continual and almost tiresome reference in the English sporting papers to Tod Sloan's style, is apt to mislead people unaccustomed to American racing. Sloan's style is not peculiar in any sense of the word. I saw most of the circuit racing in the United States last season and assert unhesitatingly that the true Yankee style and Sloan's are identical. All the American boys ride short and crouch, in fact a Morney Cannon, or a Sam Loates on the great Sheepshead Bay Track in the state of New York, would create just as much surprise with their style as Sloan did when he first rode at Epsom in England. Among amateurs in this part of the East there appears to be no rule, and in most cases they seem to acquire, and cultivate habits peculiarly their own, many of them rendering good riding impossible by neglecting the elementary rules. It is no

unusual thing even in Hongkong to see a rider standing straight in his saddle and barely able to reach his irons. Surely if stirrup irons were only intended for ornamentation, they would be dispensed with when racing. That such is not the case goes without saying, and yet some of our easterners only use them as indicated. Nothing is so unsightly or more ineffective than badly adjusted leathers, and a little professional attention in this direction, would make a marked difference in the riding of many of our men who possess good hands and heads.

TRIDENT.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The following is the sixty-ninth Report of the court of directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders to be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on Saturday, the 17th February, 1900, at noon.

To the proprietors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Gentlemen,—The directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 31st December, 1899.

The net profits for that period, including \$963,532.06, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, amount, to \$3,118,624.31.

The directors recommend the transfer of \$500,000 from the profit and loss account to credit of reserve fund, which fund will then stand at \$11,500,000.

After making this transfer and deducting remuneration to directors there remains for appropriation \$2,603,624.31, out of which the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of one pound and ten shillings sterling per share, which at 4/6 will absorb \$533,333.33, and a bonus of ten shillings sterling per share which at 4/6 will absorb \$177,777.78.

The difference in change between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend and Bonus are declared, and 1/11½, the rate of the day, amounts to \$931,669.64.

The balance \$960,843.56 to be carried to new profit and loss account.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. N. A. Siebs has been elected chairman for the year 1900, and Mr. R. Shewan, deputy chairman.

Mr. E. Shellim and Mr. Robert H. Hill having resigned their seats, Mr. D. M. Moses and Mr. R. L. Richardson have been invited to fill the vacancies; these appointments require confirmation at this meeting.

Mr. A. Haupt, Mr. A. McConachie and Mr. P. Sachs retire in rotation, but being eligible for re-election offer themselves accordingly.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson and Mr. A. G. Wood, the latter acting for Mr. C. S. Sharp who is absent from the colony.

Mr. F. Henderson offers himself for re-election, so also does Mr. C. S. Sharp who is shortly returning to the colony.

R. M. GRAY,
Chairman.

Hongkong, 29th January, 1900.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Paid-up capital	10,000,000.00		
Reserve fund	11,000,000.00		
Marine insurance account	250,000.00		
Notes in circulation:—			
Authorized issue against securities deposited with the Crown Agents for the colonies	\$10,000,000.00		
Additional issue authorized by Hongkong Ordinance No. 1 of 1899, against coin lodged with the Hongkong Government	2,642,716.00		
		12,642,716.00	
Current account—			
Silver	\$69,978,962.45		
Gold, £1,676,675 12s.			
11d.—	17,197,354.76		
		78,176,317.21	

Fixed deposits—

Silver.....	\$24,200,651.51
Gold, £4,291,675 13s. 6d.	44,079,406.78
	78,370,142.29
Bills payable (including drafts on London bankers and short sight drawings on London office against bills receivable and bullion shipments)	14,737,118.75
Profit and loss account	3,118,624.31
Liability on bills of exchange re-discounted, £5,470,596 13s. 6d. of which up to this date £3,770,929 1s. 9d. have run off.	

\$208,294,919.56

ASSETS.

Cash	\$ 26,557,627.53
Coin lodged with the Hongkong Government against note circulation in excess of \$10,000,000	5,000,000.00
Bullion in hand and in transit	8,168,669.07
Indian Government rupee paper	4,107,887.97
Colonial and other securities	3,619,752.08
Investments, viz.:—	
£250,000 2½ per cent. Consols lodged with the Bank of England as a special London reserve, at 95 £237,500	\$1,000,000.00
£522,500 2½ per cent. Consols at 90 £470,250	4,702,500.00
£147,500 other sterling securities standing in the books at £339,750	3,397,500.00
	10,000,000.00
Bills discounted, loans and credits	59,713,635.01
Bills receivable	90,907,891.94
Bank premises	219,435.96

\$208,294,919.56

GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT,
31st DECEMBER, 1899.

Dr.	\$	c.
To amounts written off:—		
Remuneration to Directors,	\$	15,000.00
To dividend account:—		
£1.10/ per share on 80,000 shares=£120,000 at 4/6,	\$333,333.33	
Bonus of 10/ per share on 80,000 shares=£8,000 at 4/6,	177,777.78	
		711,111.11
To dividend adjustment account:—		
Difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend and Bonus are declared, and 1/11½, the current rate of the day,	931,669.64	
To transfer to reserve fund,	500,000.00	
To balance forward to next half-year	960,943.6	

\$3,118,624.31

Cr.

By balance of undivided profits, 30th June, 1899,	\$ 961,532.06
By amount of net profits for the six months ending 31st December, 1899, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, deducting all expenses and interest paid and due,	2,155,092.25

\$3,118,624.31

RESERVE FUND.

To balance	\$ 11,500,000.00
	\$11,500,000.00
	\$
By balance, 30th June, 1899	11,000,000.00
By transfer from profit and loss account	500,000.00

\$11,500,000.00

The Indian Battalion that is to come to Singapore is the 16th Madras Native Infantry, at present having its headquarters stationed at Berhampore, with a detachment at Cuttack. The battalion is historically styled Lane's, from the officer who raised it originally at Trichinopoly on the 10th December, 1776. It was formerly the 2nd Battalion of the 5th Madras N. I. and is still linked, on the three-battalion system, with the 5th and 27th. The 16th is what is called a Class Company Regiment, consisting of 3 Companies Mahomedans, 2 Companies Tamils, 1 Company Telingas, and 2 Companies mixed. The regiment bears on its colours the distinctions "Carnatic," "Sholimgur," "Mysore," "Seringapatam," "Ara," and "Burma 1885—1887." Its full uniform is red, facings yellow, lace gold. The Commandant is Major J. W. Parker, with rank of Lt.-Colonel. —Singapore Free Press.

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO
STEAMBOAT CO., LIMITED.

On the 1st inst. the ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company, Limited, was held at the office of the company, No. 18, Bank Buildings. The Hon. E. R. Belilios, C. M. G., presided, and there were also present: the Hon. J. J. Keewick, Messrs. N. A. Siebs, E. Goetz, F. A. Gomes (directors), T. Arnold (secretary), D. Gillies, E. Georg, R. C. Wilcox, T. I. Rosa, J. Goosman, (Captain) Tillet, J. J. Judah, W. H. Gaskell, F. Henderson, J. A. Leiria, D. W. Craddock, John Behrens, Thomas Yue, She Fat Soi, and Wong Wing Yuen.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—I propose that, as usual, the report and accounts be taken as read. Your directors regret that the net earnings of steamers are not quite up to those of the corresponding six months of 1898, but, as explained in the report, this is mainly due (in fact, I think I may say almost entirely due) to the adverse conditions under which the West River branch of our business has been carried on. At our last meeting mention was made of the restrictions which had been placed upon the working of our steamers and the opinion expressed that should those conditions continue the trade could not be worked at a profit. Unfortunately, that prediction has been more than realised, as the result of the six months' working of this branch shows an actual loss. With regard to the new steamers for this trade which have been specially built, and are being built, in joint account with other companies, I may explain that they were ordered during an interval when the restrictions of which we complain had been removed; had we known that those restrictions would be reimposed the investment of capital in this direction would certainly have been deferred until better times. We can now only hope that something will shortly result from the urgent representations we have made in regard to this matter. The *White Cloud*, the last of our old wooden steamers, has been sold, showing a loss of some \$7,600 on her book value, against which we have a partial offset in the profit of \$3,385 on the sale of a property. The trade on the Canton and Macao line is too small for vessels of the tonnage of the *White Cloud* to work remuneratively; your directors, therefore, decided to put the *Huenshang* on in her place, and so far the result of the running of this steamer has been fairly satisfactory. You will have observed that the Board, in anticipation of your approval, has, in common with other local companies, subscribed small sums to two deserving objects, namely, the Tung Wah Hospital and the Soldiers and Sailors' Families' Fund, a trifling expenditure to which, under the circumstances, there will doubtless be no objection. We had hoped to have our new wharf ready by this time, but owing to the great rise in raw material and the difficulty, in consequence of the war, of getting workmen, there has been several months' delay in shipment. A portion of the material has now arrived and further shipments are on the way—work has been commenced and the wharf should be finished before our next meeting. The *Pouan* has resumed running after a two months' lay up for new boilers and a general overhaul: she is now in first rate condition throughout and should run for a good many years yet. The company's investments, I am pleased to say, are in a most satisfactory condition; all our mortgages show ample margins on the respective loans, while the rise in the value of the investments in stocks enables us to increase the amount at the credit of our investment fluctuation account to the substantial figure of \$137,000. With these few remarks, gentlemen, I would propose the adoption of the report and accounts, but before doing so I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability any questions which shareholders may wish to ask.

There being no questions, the report and accounts were adopted, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. GILLIES.

Messrs. A. O'D. Gourdin and F. Henderson

were re-elected auditors, on the motion of Mr. ROSE, seconded by Mr. WILCOX.

The CHAIRMAN—This is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow at ten o'clock. I thank you for your attendance.

THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY,
LIMITED.

The following is the Nineteenth Annual Report of the above company:—

The general managers have pleasure in submitting to the shareholders a statement of the Company's accounts for the year 1899.

Including \$2,484.14 brought forward from last year, and after deducting \$10,000 paid on the 26th July last as an interim dividend of \$2 per share, the balance at credit of profit and loss is \$67,893.47, which it is recommended should be appropriated as follows:—

A final dividend of \$10.00 per share \$50,000.00	
To write off property and extension accounts	\$14,269.33
To carry forward	\$ 3,624.14
	\$67,893.47

A considerable sum was expended during the year on buildings and plant, and a further large expenditure will probably be necessary.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 29th January, 1900.

ASSETS.	\$	c.
Property account	\$27,000.00	
Extension account	87,269.33	
	114,269.33	
Invested in:—		
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's share	225.00	
Canton Insurance Office's share	120.00	
China Fire Insurance Co.'s share	85.00	
Debentures in Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited	10,000.00	
Mortgage on property	50,000.00	
Cash on hand	287.34	
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—Current account	30,093.50	
Outstanding accounts	2,247.75	
Accounts receivable	1,807.10	
Ice on hand	180.00	
Coal on hand	200.00	

\$209,305.32

LIABILITIES	\$	c.
Capital	125,000.00	
Accounts payable	7,914.72	
Ammonia reserve account	4,497.13	
Profit and loss account	67,893.47	

\$209,305.32

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	\$	c.
To salaries, wages and general trade expenses	24,242.09	
To subscription to Soldiers and Sailors' Families' Fund	200.00	
To value of one share in the Canton Insurance Office written down from \$150 to \$120	30.00	
To General Managers' commission	2,000.00	
To auditor's fee	150.00	

27,322.09

To interim dividend of 8 per cent. paid on 26th July, 1899	10,000.00
To balance	67,893.47

\$105,215.56

By balance brought forward from last year	2,484.14
By receipts for ice during the year, value of stock on hand, &c.	97,165.19
By rents received (less Crown rents and taxes paid)	1,477.30
By interest	4,042.93
By transfer fees	46.00

\$105,215.56

We have received a copy of "Four Pieces for the Pianoforte," consisting of a gavotte, reverie, Polish dance and march, by Gertrude Clark, which we shall notice later. The publishers are Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.

Another armed robbery was reported to the police on Saturday. A coolie named Tse Sing, of 118, To Kwa Wan, Kowloon, said that at about two o'clock in the morning eight men armed with swords and revolvers entered his house, threatened him, and stole clothing and jewellery to the value of \$27. He added that he was unable to identify them.

THE WAR RELIEF FUND.

A STRIKING INSTANCE OF AMERICAN SYMPATHY.

It affords us pleasure to record a striking instance of the sympathy of our American cousins with the Mother Country in the present crisis, an exhibition of American base ball being given at Happy Valley on the 1st inst. in aid of the War Relief Fund by the officers and men of the U.S.S. *Monadnock* (Captain John McGowan), the U.S.S. *Baltimore* (Captain M. Forsyth), and the U.S.S. *Wheeling* (Captain W. F. Burwell). The match was under the patronage of H. E. the Governor Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.; H.E. Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Seymour, G.C.B.; H.E. Major-General Gascoigne, C.M.G.; and Rear-Admiral J. C. Watson, U.S.N.; with Sir Thomas Jackson as honorary treasurer and Mr. Rounsvell Wildman, M.A., U.S. Consul-General in Hongkong, as honorary manager.

This being, so far as we are aware, the first base ball game to take place in Hongkong, quite a large number of people attended to witness it, and the play was watched with considerable interest. Two base-ball Nines had been organised from the three American men-of-war at present in the harbour, one team going under the name of the *Apaches* (red jackets) and the other under the name of the *Sioux* (white jackets). The teams were made up as follows:—

Apaches: Catcher, Naval Constructor Hobson; pitcher, Musician Simons; short stop, Paymaster Barber; first base, Master Electn. Richardson; second base, Paymaster Doherty (Captain); third base, Seaman Lally; left field, Pvt. of Marines Tierney; centre field, Sailmaker's Mate Costello; right field, Apprentice Galbert; substitute, Bugler England.

Sioux:—Catcher, Bugler Wesley; pitcher, Plumber Schrode; short stop, Ensign Littlefield (Captain); first base, Ensign McCormack; second; base, Hospital Apprentice Steneker; third base, Ensign Asserson; left field, Boilermaker Danger; centre field, Surgeon Lippett; right field, Apprentice McNulty; substitute, Apprentice Langlas.

Captain Myers, U.S.M.C., acted as umpire and Surgeon Dennis as scorer.

The game was closely contested, both sides playing well. The *Sioux*, however, proved the winners, scoring 10 against 12.

The expense of fencing the ground, printing, uniforms, and other accidentals, amounting in the aggregate to about \$180, was generously defrayed by the officers and men of the three American warships mentioned who did not take part in the game. Consequently all the money taken will be handed over to the fund.

The result was that the fund will benefit to the extent of \$531, a very handsome donation indeed.

The good feeling which prompted the effort will not soon be forgotten by the British community at Hongkong, and the news of this tangible illustration of American sympathy will be hailed with gratification at home.

HONGKONG FOOTBALL CHALLENGE SHIELD.

The tie in the second round, played on Saturday, between the Royal Engineers' Recreation Club and H Co. Royal Welch Fusiliers, did not produce a very interesting game nor one needing much comment. The R.E. were drawn to meet H.M.S. *Victorious* in the first round, but owing to the absence of the latter had a walk over, whilst H Co. R.W.F. had easily disposed of D Co. R.W.F. in the same round. Prior to Saturday's match the Engineers were expected to win pretty comfortably but expectations were not realized, for although they had much the better of the play, H Co. did all the scoring. The following players represented the teams:—

Royal Engineers:—Burrell, goal; Dagnell and Thornhill, backs; Deane, Scott and King, halves; and Lt. Brown, Barlow, Nolan, Boulter and Mather, forwards. H Co. R.W.F.:—Johnson goal; Smart and Sgt. Bolderen, backs; Martin, Waller and Sweet, halves; and Edwards, Povey Dewhurst, Shields and Graham, forwards.

Mr. Mayson acted as referee.

At the start the R.E. had the best of the game, but after about ten minutes' play H Co's forwards got away with a rush and loose play amongst the defending backs gave Dewhurst

an opportunity, which he promptly availed himself of and scored. From this to half-time the game was well contested, and although the Engineers did by far the most attacking, dilatoriness amongst their forwards and stubborn defence by the Fusiliers kept them out, and at the interval the score was:—

H Co. R.W.F. ... 1 goal
R.E. ... nil

On resuming the Engineers continued to press, being even more in evidence than in the first half, but their forwards continued to be very weak in front of goal. They were handicapped through Boulter (inside left) having strained one of the sinews of his leg early in the game, which detracted very much from his value afterwards, but this was not sufficient excuse. Although the Fusiliers' right back, Smart, and Johnson, their goalkeeper, played most excellently, a little dash amongst the R.E. inside men would have brought them several goals but, though continually within shooting range, and well supported behind, they potted about too much and were either robbed or had their shots spoiled. Lieut. Brown on the right wing did a lot of good work, and put in many excellent runs and centres, but little use was made of them by his colleagues. H Co. occasionally broke away, usually on the left wing, and just near the finish one of these dashes resulted in another goal, Shields netting the ball. The end came with the score:—

H Co. R.W.F. ... 2 goals
Royal Engineers ... nil

The winners' right back (Smart) and Johnston, their goalkeeper, were by far their most prominent players, but their left wing forwards also did good work. None of the R.E. excepting Lt. Brown were up to their usual form. Man for man they were much stronger than their opponents, and usually came off better in individual tussles, but their forwards lacked the one essential, viz., the ability to get goals.

Probably if Brown had played centre as usual the result would have been different.

At this stage of the competition I think I can safely say something about its probable result. In the first place, Saturday's winners, H Co. R.W.F., will have to play B Co. R.W.F. in the semi-final, and barring accidents will get beaten. On February 3rd the Engineers' Institute try conclusions with the 38th Co. S.D., R.A., last season's runners up. This game is bound to be a very stiff one, but without being too confident I think the Civilians will survive. The Hongkong F.C. should have no difficulty with G Co. R.W.F. and, with an effort, should account for the winners of the tie, 38th Co. r. Engineers, in the semi-final. This being so it will leave them to meet B Co. in the final; in which case I would guess "the club."

QUIDNUNC.

FOOTBALL NOTES.

Results:—

ASSOCIATION.

Monday, January 22nd,
Hongkong F.C. 1 goal, 25th S.D., R.A., 1 goal.

Saturday, January 27th.

SHIELD TIE.

H Co. R.W.F. 2 goals; R.E. nil.
25th S.D., R.A., nil; Engineers' Institute nil.

RUGBY.

Thursday, January 25th.

Officers of the United Services 11 points,
Civilians 8 points.

On Saturday there was a friendly game between the Engineers' Institute and the 25th S.D., R.A., at Causeway Bay.

The Engineers were short of Wilson and Tuohy but the Artillery were well represented. Throughout the game neither side scored but the R.A., more especially in the second half, were clearly the better team.

The Engineers' backs and halves, Ritchie in particular, played very well, but their forwards were easily held in check by the Gunners' half-backs, the team being kept almost continually on the defensive.

I hear that Lieut. Moberley, who a couple of seasons ago rendered such excellent service to the Hongkong Football Club, will be here in time to assist in the next shield tie. He is arriving at an opportune moment for the club.

QUIDNUNC.

FOOTBALL.

The *Centurion* football team of to-day is not to be compared with the one that figured so prominently in the Shield competition three seasons ago. On the 29th ult., it met a weak Hongkong Club team, composed of Cox, goal; Manuk and Johnson, backs; Jenkins, C. Kew and Howard, halves; and Lt. Brown, R.E. Lee Noble, Woodgate and Danby, forwards; and had all the worst of the encounter. In the first half of the game Noble scored, and in the second Lee, both being good shots though from a close range.

Result:—Hongkong F. Club ... 2 goals
H.M.S. *Centurion* ... nil

Danby was in excellent form and played a very good game indeed, but Noble was awfully erratic and missed two palpably easy chances with only the goalkeeper in front of him. The *Centurion* goalkeeper performed well and it is his credit that the score against his side was not larger.

CRICKET.

HONGKONG C. C. V. HONGKONG F. C.

On Saturday afternoon the Hongkong C. C. met an eleven selected from the Hongkong Football Club, and were defeated by 129 runs. Lieut. Maitland and Lieut. Johnson, for the Footballers, were much to the fore, the former having 98 to his credit and the latter 90. Scores:—

THE CLUB.	
Captain Langhorne, R.A., b Lee	28
K. W. Mounsey, b Johnson	2
Dr. J. A. Iowson, b Hancock	13
Lieut. A. G. Wood, b Higgon	41
A. Mackenzie, b Burnie	4
Rov. G. R. Vallings, c Lee, b Burnie	0
J. J. Wild, c Thomson, b Mulliken	14
A. Woodgate, c Thomson, b Mulliken	12
Lieut. Strong, R.M.L.I., run out	8
Lieut. Wright, R.N., b Mulliken	2
A. E. Hinds, not out	0
Extras	12
Total	138

H. K. F. C.	
J. B. Lee, b Lowson	20
C. M. G. Burnie, l.b.w., b Iowson	2
Lt. Johnson, R.W.F., c Mackenzie, b Vallings	90
F. W. Maitland, c Woodgate, b Lowson	93
A. G. Ward, l.b.w., b Vallings	3
H. R. Hancock, b Lowson	13
Lieut. Mulliken, R.A., b Lowson	1
P. A. Cox, b Lowson	0
Lieut. Rotherham, R.W.F., b Mackenzie	23
Lieut. Higgon, R.W.F., not out	6
Lieut. Thomson, R.A., b Vallings	0
Extras	11
Total	267

"CRIMINAL LAW AND ITS HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT."

PAPER BY THE HON. W. MEIGH GOODMAN.

On the 29th ult., the Hon. W. Meigh Goodman (Acting Chief Justice) read a paper in the Chamber of Commerce Room at the City Hall, under the auspices of the Hongkong Odd-Volumes Society, on "Criminal Law and its Historical Development." The chair was occupied by His Excellency the Governor (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.) There was a good attendance.

CRIMINAL LAW: WHAT IT IS.

Criminal Law is, of course, only one department of the great body of Law in force in any country. It deals with crime as opposed to mere civil wrongs. It ought to explain and define crimes, to lay down the punishment for them and regulate the procedure for the arrest, and trial of persons suspected or accused of crime. That is clear enough; but what is the proper definition of a Crime? Historically, it is an act or omission which gives rise to an accusation (*crimen*), as distinct from an action. Certain acts, now regarded as crimes, were treated at first as acts of, or excuses for, private war, in the absence of and conception of public justice or the Supreme Authority of the King or Commonwealth. But, at the present time, a Crime may be defined, in a popular sense, as an offence which the law punishes directly, as, for instance, by fine or imprisonment, as distinguished from some wrongful act which it punishes indirectly, by giving a civil

action for damages to the person injured. In the one case the injury to the community is considered and punished, in the other merely the injury to the individual is regarded. Now there are

TWO GREAT SYSTEMS OF CRIMINAL LAW. One, the Continental system. The other, the English system.

By the *Continental system*, I mean the system based upon Roman Law; the system in force in France, Spain, Italy, and Holland, for example. In these countries, as formerly in Scotland, the Roman Law profoundly influenced the local legal system, including the criminal procedure in force from time to time.

By the *English system*, I mean the system in force in England, which represents the present-day views of the Anglo-Saxon race on the subject of crime and the methods of dealing with alleged criminals. That this English system comes of a vigorous stock and has a vitality of its own which seems to suit the genius of our race, is evident from its prevalence in so large a proportion of the civilized world. With trifling modifications to suit local requirements, it is in force in nearly every British Colony. In various shapes it obtains in almost the whole of those vast areas which go to make up the United States of America. You will find it in Canada and in Australia, and it forms the basis of that Indian Penal Code which has been described by an eminent modern writer as "the Criminal Law of England freed from all technicalities and superfluities, systematically arranged and modified in some very few particulars to suit the circumstances of British India." The English system appears, therefore, capable of adaptation to varied races of men, living in different countries and in tropical as well as in temperate climates.

DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE TWO SYSTEMS.

The experience of centuries has of course, caused improvements and modifications in both these two great systems. While, however, the essential features of the English system are now Trial by Jury and *viid voce* evidence given in open Court by witnesses in the presence of the accused who may cross-examine them, the Continental system admits of written evidence not necessarily seen by the accused and elaborate official interrogation of the prisoner conducted often in secret and rather on the assumption that he is guilty than that he may be innocent. Such interrogation is aimed at procuring confession of his guilt or damaging admissions to be used eventually against him. To take, for instance, the French case of the Monk Léotade accused of murder and other crimes. He was arrested in April. Sir James F. Stephen points out, and not tried till the following February. Now, during those ten months, he spent most of the time in solitary confinement, being, however, constantly examined, cross-examined, re-examined, and confronted with various witnesses always in secret. "At the trial it seems that, after the *acte d'accusation* had been read, he was again cross-examined at great length, and the argument for the prosecution was that he must be guilty because his answers on different occasions were, in some degree, inconsistent, and because on one or two points he was contradicted by other witnesses." I am not discussing which is the most effective system in preventing the escape of a guilty person from punishment allotted to his crime, but there can be no doubt that the English system is more in accordance with our notions of justice and fair-play. According to the English system, Léotade could not have been interrogated at all, and before he made any statement before the Magistrate on the preliminary enquiry he would have been cautioned that anything he said might be given in evidence against him. I am aware that juries are not unknown in some Continental States, and that trifling offences can be dealt with summarily by a Magistrate without a jury under the English system; but I am speaking generally of the difference between the two systems.

THE ENGLISH SYSTEM SHOULD BE STUDIED HISTORICALLY.

It is impossible to thoroughly understand the present English system of criminal law without some knowledge of its past history. You may find out what the law on some particular point

is by reference to elaborate works of text writers on the subject. The man of intelligence will, however, want to know *why* the law is such? How came that to be the law? Is it quite satisfactory to the logical mind of the philosopher that the law should be so? Why is it a felony if I steal your purse with a shilling in it, and only a *misdemeanour* if by some false pretence I swindle you out of ten thousand pounds? The answer to such questions is that one must study Criminal Law historically. That history is interwoven with the history of England itself. The various races that have settled in England have left their impress on her laws both civil and criminal. The mark of some has been more abiding than that of others. But it is a fact that English Criminal Law would not have been exactly what it is to-day had not Saxons, and Roman ecclesiastics, and Danes and Normans settled in England and brought with them their respective customary laws and their habits of thought and modes of regarding crime and dealing with criminals.

Just as the intermingling of various races evolved on English soil, the modern Englishman, so the present English Criminal Law has been evolved from the succession of the varied laws and customs of those races, tested and tried by the experience of many centuries and modified by Acts of Parliament. The result is, doubtless, a somewhat complex and unsystematic body of law, but the principles which permeate it are admirable.

WRITERS WHOSE WORKS SERVE AS LANDMARKS IN THE HISTORY OF CRIMINAL LAW.

Among the authorities who may be consulted by one desirous of ascertaining what the Criminal Law was in former days in England, may be mentioned the following:—The collection of *Ancient Laws and Institutes of England*, published by Mr. Thorpe under the direction of the Record Commissioners. This contains some forty-seven sets of laws or partly ecclesiastical, partly secular statutes, bearing the names of fourteen rulers, twelve of them before the Conquest, viz., from Ethelbert to Edward the Confessor inclusive, while the remaining two are Norman Kings—William the Conqueror and Henry I.

Glanville is next worth notice. He wrote in the reign of Henry II. and was in 1189 the then equivalent of the Chief Justice.

The *Mirror of Justice* seems to have been written about the time of Edward I. Sir JAMES F. STEPHEN, however, does not seem to regard its authority as very trustworthy in some matters.

The earliest writer, on Criminal Law, who gives anything like a general view of the subject in his day, is *Bracton*. He was one of the Justices Itinerant of Henry III. and collected the laws and customs prevailing in England in the earlier half of the thirteenth century. Things were then in a transition stage and while the old English law regulated *procedure*, the deficiency in definitions and principles was supplied by Bracton chiefly from the Roman Law. It must not be supposed that Roman Criminal Law ever took deep root generally in England. The English were always suspicious of it, possibly on account of the arbitrary powers conferred by it on the Sovereign. The Digest lays down that "what pleases the Prince has the force of law, as by the Royal Law (*Lex Regia*) which was passed concerning his authority, the people conferred upon him all their power and authority." Principles of Roman Law such as these would have destroyed that feudal liberty which the nobles cherished. Such doctrines would have been fatal, had they been incorporated in our laws. It was the attempt to put in practice of the *Lex Regia* kind which cost the Stuarts the throne of England.

The next great work was *Coke's Institutes*, which have had a greater influence on the laws of our country than any work written between the days of Bracton and those of Blackstone. Coke flourished in the time of James I.

In the middle of the 17th century *Sir Matthew Hale's Pleas of the Crown* was published. It was a work of great ability and is even now deemed an authority of a high order.

A century later appeared *Sir Michael Foster's Report of Criminal Cases*, decided mostly in the reign of George II. followed by discourses on

Treason, Homicide and Accomplishments in capital cases. The excellent work appeared in 1762.

It was about this time that *Blackstone* was delivering lectures on law at Oxford, and among those who attended his lectures was Jeremy Bentham who was afterwards to become one of the ablest and most fearless critics of the British Constitution and Laws.

Blackstone published the first edition of his celebrated *Commentaries* between 1765 and 1769. He gives us a complete view of the whole system of English Law as it existed in the latter part of the 18th century. An eminent authority has said:—"Blackstone did, and did exceedingly well, for the end of the 18th century, what Coke tried to do and did exceedingly ill about one hundred and fifty years before, that is to say, he gave an account of the law as a whole, capable of being studied not only without disgust but with interest and profit."

He dealt more completely than Coke and Hale with common law principles and definitions, and treated fully of the great additions which had been made in the course of the 18th century in the substantive Criminal Law by statutory enactment. *Blackstone's Commentaries* have passed through many editions, and even at the present day the four volumes of Mr. Sergeant Stephen's *Commentaries*, which may be described as *Blackstone* brought up to date, are set as the subject of the Intermediate Examination of articulated clerks aspiring to become solicitors. Of course, the modern writers have had to take into account the vast number of Acts of Parliament which have dealt, in an unsystematic way, with various offences which the circumstances of the day have, from time to time, forced on the special attention of the Legislature. *Blackstone's* courtly language and somewhat exaggerated feeling of admiration for the law as existing when he wrote, brought him under the literary lash of Bentham, that robust hater of technicalities and red tape, that excellent specimen of a healthy mind in a healthy body.

Jeremy Bentham exposed, by his bold and dashing criticism, many of these defects and blemishes of our legal system whose antiquity had caused them to be generally regarded with toleration and even respect.

It is difficult for us to realize that when *Blackstone* wrote, there were no less than one hundred and sixty offences declared by Act of Parliament to be punishable by death.

It is true that *Blackstone* laments this, but Bentham boldly points out the atrocious cruelty of such a state of things. Death was the punishment for stealing a sheep just as it was for murdering a man.

Henry Brougham, afterwards Lord Chancellor, was a devout Benthamite, and the brilliant speech he delivered in the House of Commons when Bentham was between seventy and eighty years old led to the appointment of two Commissions, one to consider the Criminal Law, and the other the methods of the Courts at Westminster and the Common Law. The Report of a Commission on Criminal Law led to the appointment of a further Commission, which resulted in the passing of the Criminal Law Consolidation Acts of 1861. But the more immediate and very satisfactory result of Bentham's and Brougham's efforts, was the confining of capital punishment to murder, high treason, and piracy.

The ablest modern writer upon Criminal Law was, in my opinion, the late Sir James Fitz-James Stephen, whose *Digests of Criminal Law and of Procedure* contain the result of the labours of half a life-time, and show how feasible it would be to produce a complete code, given the necessary power and authority to the right persons. In writing this Paper, I have largely availed myself of his admirable *History of the Criminal Law of England*, a work showing immense research.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—I think there will be no difficulty in your acceding to my proposition that we shall pass a vote of cordial thanks to the lecturer for the very interesting lecture he has just delivered on English criminal law. (Hear hear.) We have all listened with very great interest to his rapid review of English criminal law from the earliest times, and there is one thing which struck me with reference to the past and the present, and that is the fact that at the present

time our criminal law is, I think, extremely fair on the whole; in fact more than fair sometimes in its anxiety that nothing by any possibility should be put forward against a prisoner that is in the slightest degree unfair. A great many of us are disposed to pride ourselves upon the national characteristics as evidenced by the state of the law and to fancy ourselves a good deal superior to our neighbours. Talking of this fairness to the prisoner, I remember two or three instances which came under my own notice which illustrate this very clearly. I remember a case in Ireland where a man who had stolen some money was brought to the Police Station. The policeman said to him, "Now you had better tell me where you put that money. It will be better for you. We will see what can be done for you." Upon this the man confessed to having stolen the money and told where he had hidden it under a certain stone. The man was taken before a Magistrate and committed for trial. At the trial it came out that the policeman had not warned the prisoner before he had made his statement, and the judge said that a confession procured in such a way was not a confession which ought to be allowed to be brought forward at the trial. I remember another case where a turnkey did a very mean thing. A prisoner's wife was allowed to see him in gaol and the turnkey listened at the door to their conversation. He heard the man confess to his wife that he had committed a very grave crime—I am not sure it was not murder. At the trial the turnkey repeated what he had heard, but the judge refused to accept evidence, saying that a man's confession to his wife ought not to be taken advantage of. These two cases will tend to show how extremely careful we are that a prisoner indicted for any crime should have fair play. With regard to the old Acts and punishments to which the Chief Justice has alluded, I sometimes think we may be led astray by a statement as to what the punishment might have been. I remember that on the occasion of the Dynamite Bill passing the House of Commons, I was in the gallery with the then Lord Chief Justice of Ireland. I remarked to him, "Do you think it is severe enough?" "Severe," he replied. "Why, under that law a little boy might be indicted and sentenced to penal servitude for life for exploding a penny cracker under a lady's petticoat." (Laughter.) It does not always follow that the extreme penalty which might be inflicted is inflicted. But there is one thing which struck me in listening to this very interesting lecture, and that was that when we consider the horrible tortures practiced in England down to very recent times, and that up to a very few years ago crowds of people attended public executions, laughing and perfectly untouched by the horrors of the scene, it gives us great hope that the awful tortures practiced in the empire of China, close to our gates, may not go on for ever. (Hear, hear.) People who have not looked into the mote in our eye may think that where such tortures are permitted to exist there must be innate moral turpitude in the people which renders them hopeless. But if so, we ourselves should remember that moral turpitude in times gone by—not very long ago. It is therefore a great comfort for us to believe that as soon as it is realised—as one day it may be realised, when the light shines upon China,—that crimes which tortures are supposed to prevent are not prevented, but that as tortures cease and the dawn of fair play begins to appear, crimes begin to decrease, and especially crimes of great violence, I think we may hope that in the not distant future we may see the day when torture will cease in China—(hear, hear)—and that will be a blessed day to everybody. I think, ladies and gentlemen, the thanks of the meeting are due—and I am sure you will agree with me—to the Acting Chief Justice for his most interesting and able lecture. (Applause.)

The Hon. H. E. POLLOCK—I beg to propose a hearty vote of thanks to His Excellency the Governor for his kindness in coming to preside to-day. (Hear, hear.) I think this is the first time he has attended a meeting of our society, but I hope that in the future we shall frequently see him here. (Applause.)

The proceedings then terminated.

ENGLISH CRIMINAL LAW AT THE PRESENT TIME.—CLASSIFICATION OF CRIMES.

Before considering the English Criminal Law as it existed centuries ago, it may be well to take a brief survey of its leading features at the present day. At present, crimes are divided into three main classes, viz., treasons, felonies, and misdemeanours. As a matter of fact all treasons are felonies, though, of course, there are many felonies which are not treasons nor so heinous in the sight of the law as treasons. Murder is also a felony.

At the Assizes, in England, the Crier makes Proclamation as follows:—"If any one can inform my lords the Queen's Justices, the Queen's Attorney General or the Queen's Sergeant, ere this inquest taken between our Sovereign Lady the Queen and the prisoners at the bar, of any treason, murder, felony or misdemeanour committed or done by them or any of them, let him come forth and he shall be heard for the prisoners stand at the bar upon their deliverance."

I suppose that proclamation has been made in the same terms for hundreds of years. I am not aware that there has been for many years such a person as the Queen's Sergeant referred to in it, and I suppose the word "murder" is interposed between the words "treason" and "felony," because murder, like treason, is a particularly heinous kind of felony.

Treason—is an offence against the duty of allegiance and it is, according to the law books, the highest known crime, for it aims at the very destruction of the Commonwealth itself. Five species of treason are set forth by the Statute of Edward III. One sees at once the feudal origin of the offence. Treason is a word derived from the French "*Trahir*" to betray, the underlying idea being the betrayal of the allegiance to the sovereign.

Felony.—This term embraces, as a general rule, all crimes of a more serious nature than misdemeanours, crimes which are, therefore, usually more severely punished than misdemeanours. There are, however, some exceptions to this general rule, and at the present day the word "Felony" is an anachronism. It would hardly find a place in any modern reclassification of crimes. There is a respect for antiquity in English law and the word "has a history." I am in favour of Spelman's derivation of the word. He derives it from the Teutonic, or old German, "*Fee*," meaning a fief, and "*lon*" meaning price or value. Originally it meant the state or state of having forfeited lands and goods to the Crown upon conviction for certain offences, and, then, by transition it came to mean any "offence" upon conviction for which such forfeiture followed, in addition to any other punishment prescribed by law, as distinguished from offences (misdemeanours) for which no forfeiture followed. While forfeiture followed conviction, felony had a definite meaning. Moreover, in the olden days, death was the punishment usually allotted by law to those convicted of felony, so that the idea of the death penalty became associated with felony, or at least with most felonies. But forfeiture for felony was abolished in England in 1870, and the death penalty is almost entirely confined to murder, so that the word felony is not very suitable as a generic term at the present day. However, in framing an indictment, if the crime amounts to felony the deed must be described as having been done "*feloniously*," and there are minor differences in procedure between cases of felony and misdemeanour which I need not here refer to.

Misdemeanour.—This includes every crime which is not a felony, and, speaking generally, one may say that every indictable criminal offence which the law regards as less than a felony and every act forbidden by any Act of Parliament, but not amounting to a felony, is a misdemeanour. Now, without wishing to underrate the many merits of English Criminal Law, or the historical interest attaching to its gradual development and the traces of the earlier stages of that development to be found in its nomenclature and its procedure at the present day, one cannot but feel that some better and more logical classification of crimes might well be made when our law comes to be codified.

It may be well, at this point, to notice that there are many trifling offences made

punishable in a summary way by the Magistrates without the intervention of any jury. There is no specific name for these unless one classifies them generally under the heading of *summary offences*. The French Code classifies offences as *Crimes*, *Délits*, and *Contraventions*, answering roughly to our felonies, misdemeanours, and summary offences respectively.

PUNISHMENTS.

The punishment which may by the law of England be inflicted in the appropriate cases at the present time are death by hanging, penal servitude, imprisonment with or without hard labour, detention in a reformatory school, subjection to police supervision, whipping, fines, and putting under recognizance. But very different punishments were at one time in force in England. The statute 22 Henry 8th Cap. 9 made poisoning high treason and punishable by boiling to death, and Coke tells us of a girl named Margaret Davey who poisoned her mistress, being boiled to death in 1530 at Smithfield under the statute.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR CRIME.

Of course, there are certain people whose acts are not punished or treated in the same way as those of responsible people. For instance, no act done by a person under seven years of age is a crime. No act done by a person over seven and under fourteen years of age is a crime, unless it be shown affirmatively that such person had sufficient capacity to know that the act was wrong. There is a remarkable presumption as to married woman which one would hardly expect to find forming part of the law at the present day. It is this. If a married woman commits a theft, or receives stolen goods knowing them to be stolen, in the presence of her husband she is presumed to have acted under his coercion, and such coercion excuses her act. This presumption may, however, be rebutted if the circumstances of the case show that in point of fact she was not coerced. Rebutting evidence of this kind might not be forthcoming, and then the woman would escape punishment.

I will not here discuss the question of the responsibility of insane people, as the subject is too complicated for my present brief sketch. Nor will I do more than mention that, as a general rule, subject, however, to some exceptions, what is called the "*mens rea*," the evil intention of the mind must accompany the act in order to constitute a crime.

(To be continued.)

HONGKONG.

Mr. L. F. G. McDonnell Hussey, second officer of the Indo-China steamer *Chunang*, has been awarded a vellum testimonial by the Royal Humane Society for saving a coolie from drowning in Hongkong Harbour on the 6th of Aug. last.

Mr. W. F. Hatherley, wharfinger at the Kowloon Wharves, met with a serious accident on Wednesday 31st ult. He was superintending some operations on the pier at No. 3 wharf, alongside of which the P. and O. steamer *Chusan* was moored, when he stepped upon a rope, which, being suddenly tightened, threw him several feet in the air. He alighted with great force on his head and sustained very serious injuries. He was carried home in an unconscious state and he still lies in a precarious condition.

The annual general meeting of seetholders and subscribers of St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, was held in St. Paul's College on the 29th ult., Bishop Hoare presiding. The accounts were presented, showing an income of \$14,670.14, the balance of \$1,633.33 over the expenses being carried forward to next year, the reserve fund being \$3,643.50. On the proposal of Sir Thomas Jackson, recorded by His Honor W. Meigh Goodman, the accounts were passed.—The Regulations for St. John's Cathedral Church were presented and approved, several amendments being suggested for the approval or otherwise of the Church Body.—The gentlemen elected as the Church Body for the ensuing year were—Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Hon. R. M. Ramsay, Sir John Carrington, C.M.G., Hon. H. E. Pollock, H. R. Hardcastle, Esq.—Mr. Wright was elected auditor, to whom a vote of thanks was also passed for his work as hon. treasurer during the past year.

The French cruiser *Pascal* arrived here on the 30 ult., and exchanged salutes.

It has been reported to the police that on Sunday morning a man who was walking along the highway between Shu Fan Kok and Som-chun was attacked by two or three other men, one of whom carried a firearm and shot him, injuring him seriously. After robbing the man of \$1,100 the ruffians decamped.

Shortly after two o'clock on the morning of the 29th ult. a fire was discovered to have broken out on the ground and first floors of 335, Queen's Road Central. These floors are used as a medicine shop and the second floors as a dwelling-house. The fire is supposed to have been caused by a charcoal brazier underneath the staircase setting the wood-work alight. Captain Superintendent May and the Fire Brigade were soon at work, and prevented the adjoining premises from catching. The house 335 was completely gutted. The damage is put down at \$7,500. The premises were insured in the Meiji Insurance Company for \$6,000.

Three lots of Crown land were offered for sale by auction at the offices of the Public Works Department on the 29th ult. Kowloon Inland Lot 998, situated at Hok Nen, was first offered, but no bid was forthcoming. Inland Lot No. 1,580, which is situate at Causeway Bay, was bought by the Land Investment Company for \$7,380 which is \$20 above the upset price. The lot contains 29,450 square feet and the annual rent is \$338. Inland Lot No. 1,579, which is situate in Queen's Road East (near Tai Wong Temple) produced some competition. The upset price was \$2,160, but the lot was not knocked down until \$3,020 was reached, Mr. A. Hok being the purchaser. The lot contains 1,80 square feet, the annual rent being \$16.

Two alarms of fire were given on the morning of the 30th ult. One was received from Messrs. D. Sassoon and Company to the effect that their coolie-house and offices in Ice-house Street had become ignited. Very little damage was, however, done. A fire which broke out at No. 18 Cochrane Street, was of a much more serious character. The ground floor is occupied as a provision shop; the first floor is empty; the second floor is occupied as dwelling-premises; and the third floor is used as a Chinese Club. The Fire Brigade, in command of Deputy-Superintendent Badeley, turned out and a party of police in charge of Inspector Macnab kept order. The first, second and third floors were completely gutted, and considerable damage, which is not covered by insurance, was done.

The German gunboat *Ilia* arrived here on the 30th ult. from Canton.

A capital entertainment was given in the Club Lusitano, Shelley Street, on Saturday evening in aid of the Society of St. Vincent and St. Paul. There was a fair attendance, the house being full, though no doubt the audience would have been larger had it not been for the concert at the Victoria Recreation Club the same evening. The President of the Club (Consul-General Romano) occupied the chair. The programme consisted of three sketches. "The Two Deaf Men," "The Two Cowards," and "The Two Sticks." The cast in the first piece was as follows:—Raymundo, O Exmo. Sr. Luiz Alvares; Christina (sua filha), A Exma. Sra. D. Maria Guedes; Alfredo O Exmo. Sr. Porphyrio Nolasco da Silva; Francisco, (criado) O Exmo. Sr. Marcellino da Silva Guimaraes; Guarda O Exmo. Sr. e dos Santos-Remedios; Jardineiro O Exmo. Sr. Armando Pereira. Cast in the second piece:—Andre (dentista), O Exmo. Sr. Porphyrio Nolasco da Silva; Luiza (mulher de Andre), A Exma. Sra. D. Cate da Silva Guimaraes; Henrique, (um conquistador) O Exmo. Sr. Luiz Alvares; Eduardo (correspondente de Andre), O Exmo. Sr. Marcellino da Silva Guimaraes; Julio (oriado), O Exmo. Sr. Armando Pereira. Cast in the third piece:—Silverio das Neves O Exmo. Sr. Marcellino da Silva Guimaraes; Agapito de Mendonca O Exmo. Sr. Porphyrio Nolasco da Silva; Sofia das Neves, (mulher de Silverio), A Exma. Sra. D. Rosita Rosa da Rocha; Marianna, (oriada), A Exma. Sra. D. Maria Guedes. The musical couplets with the wording were specially arranged for the occasion by Mr. A. A. Cordeiro. The entertainment throughout was very successful.

Being the China New Year for the past few days Bonham Strand and vicinity have been crowded with stalls laden with a miscellaneous assortment of goods. There was a fine set-out of flowers, etc. The neighbourhood was literally packed last night.

On Saturday evening a smoking concert was given in the Gymnasium of the Victoria Recreation Club in aid of the South African War Fund. Captain E. D. Sanders presided over a large audience. The concert was a most enjoyable one. It was a success in every way, and Mr. R. H. Bentley (the promoter) and all who took part are to be congratulated. Mr. T. Hughes was the accompanist, and Mr. W. Farmer stage manager. By kind permission of Capt. J. M. Jellicoe and officers, the Band of H.M.S. *Centurion* played selections during the evening. The services of the Band were much appreciated. The programme included the following items:—Songs by Mr. J. H. Oxberry "Mona" and "Stars of Normandy," Corpl. M. Hart, "Just a little bit off the top" and "They never do that to me." Corporal G. Simms "Sons of England" and "Soldiers of the Queen," Sergt. F. M. Viggers "Running up and down our Stairs," and "It suddenly dawned upon me," Mr. Van Nierop "Nita Gittana," Mr. C. M. D. Smart "Mandalay," Mr. C. T. Robinson "Our Stores," Mr. J. M. Tago (with guitar accompaniment), and Sergeant Ward (who also gave a recitation), guitar solo, Mr. J. M. Tago; recitation, Mr. W. Muskett; song and dance, Mr. McCann; patter, Brothers Silas. During the evening \$84.50 was collected in aid of the Fund. The money received for tickets has not yet come in. It is expected that \$150 will be raised altogether.

Bernard Fisher and Wilhelm Jaeger, German blue-jackets, appeared before Mr. Gompertz at the Magistracy on the 30th ult., to answer a charge of assaulting a ricksha coolie. The complainant said that at about ten o'clock on Monday night he was having his meal at the coolie house at No. 18, Elgin Road, Tsim Tsat Tsui, when the second defendant came in and caught him by the queue, after which the first defendant came forward and cut him on the right hand with a knife. The defendants then ran out into the road. The complainant and others followed, calling out "Save life." The defendants were stopped by an European constable and taken to the Police Station. The coolie at the coolie house corroborated.—P. C. 65 said he stopped the defendants because they were running and asked them what was the matter. They said they were being chased by coolies. A few minutes later the complainant and his witness and two other coolies came up and said defendants had been using a knife. The defendants were under the influence of drink but were not drunk.—The first defendant said they went to Kowloon by the ferry-boat. When in Elgin Road they asked a ricksha man to get two rickshas to drive them to the Dock, but the man said no, and went away. Then the second defendant, seeing a ricksha standing in the street without a driver, went into the house opposite to which the ricksha was standing and asked for two drivers. One man who came out of the house was offered 2 cents to drive them to the docks but he refused. Witness then said to the second defendant, "Let us walk." The second defendant replied, "No, they must drive us." Witness then went on, the second defendant remaining behind. Hearing cries for help from the second defendant witness went to his assistance. He found that the second defendant had been dragged into the house by three coolies, one of whom struck at him with a bamboo. Witness tried to seize the bamboo and the complainant came upon him with a clasp knife and hit him across the fingers. Witness struck back at him and the knife closed and cut the complainant's fingers. Then he said to the second defendant that the best thing they could do was to get away, and they were running along the road when stopped by the constable. Neither of them had a knife.—His Worship said it did not appear certain as to which of them had the knife, but as the second defendant commenced the bother he would be fined \$15 and be ordered to pay the complainant \$5. The first defendant would be fined \$10.

On Wednesday, 31st ult., the Fire Brigade were called to No. 10, High Street, belonging to Li Ping, building contractor, in consequence of a fire having broken out on the ground floor, which is used as an office. Crackers were being let off outside the door, and some sparks flew inside and ignited a box of crackers. The wood-work was soon ablaze, and about \$200 damage was done.

A wedding in which considerable interest was taken by the members of the Hongkong Police Force was celebrated at St. Joseph's Church on Saturday. Sergeant James Williamson, who has been in the Force for the past ten years, was the bridegroom and Mrs. Mary Ewanon the bride. Many members of the Force and other friends of the contracting parties were present. The bride, who was most tastefully attired, had as bridesmaid Miss Hilda Cook, Sergeant Angus MacSwayed was best man. The Rev. Father Marie officiated. After the ceremony the party adjourned to Thomas's Grill Rooms for refreshments, and subsequently a pleasant time was spent in singing, etc., songs being contributed by Miss Reidie, Mrs. MacEwan, and Inspector Robertson. The Rev. Father Marie, in a most happy speech, proposed "The health of the bride and bridegroom," and Sergeant Williamson appropriately responded. Sergeant MacSwayed next gave "All future Benedicts," a toast in proposing which he waxed quite eloquent. After this the party were photographed, and subsequently the newly-married pair left for Macao, amidst a shower of crackers and the best wishes of all their friends.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The railway line from Bangkok to Korat is nearly completed. Work upon it is in full swing, but difficulty has arisen owing to the sandy nature of the soil.

The position of the Northern Pacific Co.'s chartered steamer *Energia* appears to be much more hopeful than was at first supposed. We learn, says the *Kobe Herald*, that she lies aground on a shingle spit on the Ikutsukishima side of the Obri channel. She is entirely afloat abt the main hold. The forehold is, however, full of water and there is leakage into the main hold, the water there being, however, kept in check by the ship's pumps. The hull is elsewhere uninjured so far as can be ascertained. Messrs. Holme, Ringer & Co., the Nagasaki agents of the N. P. Company, have sent coolies with pumps and other gear for the salvage operations, and steamers have also been despatched to assist in floating the vessel. It is expected that the steamer will be brought off without very great difficulty.—The ship has since been got off partly under her own steam and partly with the assistance of a Japanese steamer. She will probably be docked at Nagasaki. The cause of the accident was said to be accidental.

A very funny incident was witnessed the other day by a good many people in front of the Hotel de l'Europe bar, says the *Singapore Free Press*. A British blue-jacket was coming slowly along the road, quietly smoking his pipe, when two big foreigners walked past him, turning their heads as they did so, and spitting repeatedly in his direction, in order to exhibit their opinion of Britain in general and that blue-jacket in particular. Jack halted, puzzled, but only for a moment. He swiftly went to one of them and floored him on the road with a good knock-out stinger under the chin, the other foreigner taking to his heels. Jack then, planting one foot with deliberation on the chest of his prostrate insulter, took off his hat and sang in a loud voice a stave of "Rule Britannia." After which, putting his hands together in an attitude of prayer, and looking devoutly upwards, he ejaculated solemnly, "God Save the Queen." Then, removing his foot from the foreign gentleman's tummy, he "stood clear," looked down at him for a moment, and pulling out a box of matches, carefully relit his pipe and leisurely sauntered off, puffing away contentedly without once looking back.

We learn that the *Jubilee*, one of the largest and most commodious house-boats of the Shanghai fleet (now some eighty in all), built of teak throughout and finished in a very first-class style, less than two years ago, has been sold by her builders, the Oriental Dock Company, for

Tls. 1,500, a sum greatly below the present value and cost of building such a vessel. The purchaser, Mr. Goodhart of the Customs, has, we are told, arranged—as soon as the Dock Co. have planked and housed in the boat against damage from bad weather—to have the *Jubilee* towed to Hankow by the new and powerful little steam-tug lately built by the Oriental Dock in Shanghai to the order of Messrs. L. Vrand & Co. Hankow, and which, in charge of an experienced foreign pilot, will leave shortly for up river, after which, one of the numerous local launches has been engaged to take the *Jubilee* to Ichang, thus completing a voyage of nearly one thousand miles. On arrival at Ichang after slight alterations, she is intended to serve the purpose of a floating residence. The *Effie*, late *Ada*, a more expensive craft, and slightly larger than the *Jubilee*, is on the market, and rumour says may eventually find moorings at Hankow or elsewhere up river.—N.C. Daily News.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 19th January.—Silk.—Re-reels.—No sales of Canton Re-reels are reported. About 100 bales or shantung Re-reels, Nos. 1 to 4, have been sold at \$860/800 per picul. Tsaltees.—Nothing has been done. Filatures.—Better news from Lyons induced buyers generally to enter the market. Important transactions took place during the first part of the fortnight and prices advanced rapidly. A good portion of the stock has been taken off the market and it is now to be feared that by asking exaggerated prices the Chinese will stop the movement. From prices paid we quote: \$1,160 for Kwong Shun Hang and Kwong Wa Lun 10/12, \$1,155, \$1,150 for Kwong Shun Hang, Kwong, Shun Cheong and Min King Lun 11/13, and Wing King Lun 10/12, \$1,140 for Kai Sun Cheong 13/15. Kwong Lun Fung 11/13 and Cheong Kee 10/12, \$1,130 for Kai Lun Cheong 9/11, Han King Cheong 10/12, and Kun Wa Lun 13/15, \$1,120 for Wing King Lun 13/15, Kwong Wo Tai 12/14, Yu King Lun and Wun Yuk Sing 10/12. Shortreels.—Have been in good enquiry and prices advanced about \$30 per picul. From prices paid we quote: \$1,150 for Kwong Wo Hing 14/16, \$1,130 for Kwong Wo Tai, Chum Sung Hang and Sai Sill Lun 14/16, \$1,100 for Yu Wo Cheong 14/16, Lee King Lun, Wing King Lun, Kun Lun Tai and Yan Hing Cheong 14/16, \$1,070 for Tai King Lun, Wa Kee, Him Wo Cheong and Wun Yuk Sing 14/16, \$1,035 for IIIA. 14/18. Waste.—Prices firm but very little doing.

SHANGHAI, 19th January.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—Raw Silk.—The market has been quiet this week owing to the advance in Exchange. Gold-Killing are firmly held at Tls. 520. Yellow Silk.—Some 53 bales have changed hands at quotations below. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, 13th to 18th January, are: 701 bales White Silk, and 12 bales Yellow. Re-Reels And Hand Filatures.—We do not hear of any business. Steam Filatures.—Nothing reported. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: England 72 bales, Continent 3,999 bales, America 3,958 bales, Sundry ports 20 bales. Wild Silk.—Nothing doing. Waste Silk.—Quiet. Quotations in Taels per picul: Average Exchange for the week 4 w./s. 2/9½ and Fcs. 3.53. Freight Tls. 7.25 per cent.

Yellow Silk.—Mienchow at Tls. 405
Kopun " 382½
Meeyang " 372½

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per British stamer, *Asama*, sailed on the 5th January. For 4,935 packages merchandise, 3471 rolls matting, 700 bales cassia, 530 cases cassia buds, 10 boxes Saigon cassia, 55 boxes bristles, 18 cases essential oil, 25 cases aniseed oil, 16 cases human hair, 65 cases star aniseed, 42 cases lithographic paper, 624 packages fire crackers, 250 boxes waste silk, 20 packages camphorwood trunks, 120 casks preserved ginger, 12 cases blackwoodware, 10 cases Chinaware, 5 casks soy, and 3 cases rice paper.

Per steamer *Indravelli*, sailed on the 16th January. For New York.—2,252 packages firecrackers, 600 cases cassia buds, 97 cases Chinaware, 20 cases bristles, 25 cases star aniseed, 40 cases cassia oil, 50 casks soy, 126 bales rattan core, and 267 packages sundries.

Per steamer *Sarnia*, sailed on the 17th January. For Havre.—2 cases gallnuts, 2 cases China ink, 4 bales bambooware, 11 boxes feathers, 80 cases bristles, 35 cases human hair, 36 cases blackwoodware, 103 cases Chinaware, 106 p'kges tea, 107 rolls mats, 200 bales hempskin, 200 cases camphor, 327 rolls matting, and 6-7 packages canes. For Havre and/or Hamburg.—2 cases fans, 3 cases human hair, 4 cases ylang ylang, 9 cases feathers, 34 bales galangal, 43 Chinaware, 68 bristles, 316 rolls mats, and 767 rolls matting. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London.—100 bales feathers, 250 bales broken cassia, and 1,019 cases camphor. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp and/or London.—28 cases bristles. For Havre and/or London.—788 bales canes. For Hamburg.—1 case private effects, 2 cases silks, 2 cases essential oil, 5 cases essential powder, 6 cases blackwoodware, 8 cases curios, 8 cases preserves, 12 cases sundries, 15 cases human hair, 18 cases cigars, 20 rolls mats, 28 cases Chinaware, 30 cases bristles, 50 cases aniseed, 55 cases palm leafans, 125 casks wood oil, 200 cases camphor, 271 rolls matting, 300 cases cassia lignea, 350 cases fire-crackers, and 471 packages canes. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp.—50 cases bristles. For Hamburg and/or London.—8 cases human hair, 629 packages canes. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp and/or London.—40 cases bristles. For Antwerp.—30 packages rattanware, 62 packages canes, and 200 bales broken cassia. For Amsterdam.—23 Chinaware. For Rotterdam.—26 bales leaf tobacco. For Copenhagen.—200 cases cassia. For Christiania.—10 cases cassia lignea. For Lisbon.—12 boxes tea.

Per P. & O. steamer *Massilia*, sailed on the 20th January. For London.—8 cases silks, 1 case private effects, 1 case bird feathers, and 3 cases undries. For Marseilles.—330 bales raw silk, 6 cases silks, and 1 case bird feathers. For Lyons.—378 bales raw silk.

Per steamer *Ambria*, sailed on the 20th Jan. For Havre.—29 cases human hair, 300 cases bambooware, 688 rolls mats, and 1,346 p'kges tea. For Havre and/or Hamburg.—1 case lanterns, 28 packages human hair, and 200 cases paper. For Bordeaux.—30 cases tea. For Hamburg.—1 case silks, 8 cases sundries, 9 cases China ink, 22 cases human hair, 50 cases bristles, 68 bales galangal, 102 rolls matting, 49 packages canes, and 1,355 bales feathers. For Havre and/or London.—160 cases canes. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp.—14 cases bristles. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp and/or London.—22 cases bristles. For New York.—72 cases essential oil.

OPIMUM.

HONGKONG, 2nd February.—Bengal.—There has been a large demand during the past week and rates have advanced, the market closing firm for Patna at \$955 and Benares at \$980.

Malwa.—There has been no change in this drug during the past week and no business has been put through. Quotations are:—

New at \$960 with allowance up to 1½ cattie
Old at \$970 " " " "
Persian.—There has been a poor demand for this drug during the interval, and rates remain unchanged, closing at \$820 for oily and \$650 to \$870 for paper-tied opium according to quality. To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—
Patna 1,154 chests.
Benares 313 "
Malwa 485½ "
Persian 866 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIMUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	NEW	OLD	NEW	OLD	NEW	OLD
1900						
Jan. 27	\$ 922½	—	\$ 92½	—	\$ 960	\$ 970
Jan. 28	930	—	940	—	960	970
Jan. 29	930	—	940	—	960	970
Jan. 30	930	—	940	—	960	970
Jan. 31	930	—	940	—	960	970
Feb. 1	930	—	970	—	960	970
Feb. 2	955	—	980	—	960	970

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 2nd February.—Moderate business done at a rise of \$1 to \$1½. Market closing firm. Stock, about 3,000 bales.

Bombay 23.50 to 24.00 picul.
Kurrachee — to —

Bengal (New): Rangoon, } 23.50 to 25.50 picul.
and Dacca }
Shanghai and Japanese, ... 26.00 to 27.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo 26.00 to 27.50 "
Mauras (Best) — —
Sales: 500 bales.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

SHANGHAI, 18th January.—(From Messrs. Notl. Murray & Co. Piece Goods Trade Report).—Piece Goods.—There is not much to report on this occasion respecting our market, which can only be described as very strong. Although the business reported is not extensive there is a quiet demand all the time, and transactions must be greatly in excess of what has appeared. The dealers, who are evidently anticipating the wants of the Tientsin merchants, are picking up all the suitable goods they can find, and as they hope to make a profit on them are naturally not anxious to give publicity to the prices they are paying to Importers, and so particulars are not disclosed. Most of the sales now are for delivery after China New Year, and the Auction prompts have also been extended beyond that date, which accounts for the advance in prices this week. There is no news of any importance from the Out Ports, and the near approach of the settling day will stop further orders thence until after the holidays. The Yarn market is strong with an upward tendency, a further advance having been established this week in spite of the better rates for remittance. The recent rise in prices in Japan is restricting contract business. Local Spinners are strong and gradually getting the higher prices asked for, but at present rates the demand is not very brisk.

Stocks at the close of 1899. Further declarations of the movement of goods last year continue to be made by the Customs, which of course alter the estimates based on the returns made to the Chamber at the end of June. A mistake in our circular of 20th October, that has been pointed out to us, namely the import of 1,156 pieces Velveteens, instead of 1,156 dozen Handkerchiefs, reduces the stock of the former to 2,068 pieces, which is very approximate to the Chamber of Commerce returns—1,330 pieces. Chops and Trade Marks.—A very practical suggestion is about to be made to the Chamber of Commerce here by some of our leading Importers with regard to the desirability of instituting a system that will obviate, to a great extent, the inconvenience and often annoyance that is constantly taking place through Firms unwittingly making use of designs for Chops that have already been adopted by other firms. In late years, since the Indent business has grown to the extent it has, hundreds of new chops have been introduced, and it is quite impossible to discover if, when a dealer hands in a new chop he wishes put on the goods he orders, it has not already been appropriated by another Firm. Therefore, if the Chamber can arrange, as suggested, to keep copies of all the chops used on this market, which the Import houses are to be invited to send in to be filed for reference at the Office of the Chamber. Importers could, on payment of a certain fee, be allowed to make "a search," as is done under the Trade Marks Act in England, in order to find out if a design submitted by a dealer is really an original one and can be safely used. An opinion has been expressed that such a scheme would involve too much trouble and expense, but we are sure something of this sort will eventually have to be done, and if the trouble and expense are great now how much greater will they be five or ten years hence?

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 2nd February.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer 1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand 1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight 2/-½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 2/-½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand 2.47
Credits, at 4 months' sight 2.53

ON GERMANY.—

On demand 201½

ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand 47½
Credits, 60 days' sight 48½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer 145
Bank, on demand 145½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer 145
Bank, on demand 145½

ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71
Private, 30 days' sight	73 1/2
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	3 1/2 % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 1/2 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 % pm.
ON HAIPHONG.—	
on demand	2 1/2 % pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	2 % pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	61
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	10.16
GOLD LEAV. 100 fine per tael	53

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 2nd February.—The China New Year holidays have greatly interfered with business and there is but little of any importance to report. The Hongkong Ice Company has issued its report for year ended 1899, and the management has decided to pay a final dividend of \$10 per share (making \$12 in all for the year) to write \$14,269.33, off property account and to carry forward \$3624.14. The Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steam Boat Company held its meeting yesterday and dividends are payable to-day.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai changed hands in small lots in the early part of the week at \$339 and \$333 and later, over settlements at \$337 and \$336 market closes quiet at \$335. London rate £60. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—With the exception of a sale of Cantons at \$130 there is no business to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Continue steady to strong with a small demand and sales at quotations.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao found buyers in the early part of the week at \$31 1/2 and \$31 cum div., and close quiet at \$28 1/2 ex div. Indo-Chinas have ruled weaker with sellers at \$89 and no sales or buyers over \$88 to \$88 1/2. Douglases continue on offer at \$51 without bringing buyers into the market. China Manilas could be placed at quotation but no business is reported. China Mutuals are still enquired for at quotations without bringing any shares on the market.

MINING.—Punjoms in the early part of the week changed hands in fair lots from \$5.75 to \$5.85, but a call of \$1 per share, payable on the 3rd March, has somewhat weakened them and shares are now obtainable at \$5.65. Preferences are however enquired for at \$1.25. Charbonages remain unchanged and without business. Olivers have ruled quiet with small sales at \$5.75 to \$5.90 closing with sellers at \$5.60. Jelebus have been dealt in to a limited extent at \$13 1/2 and \$13 1/4. Raubs continue steady with small buyers at \$62. Great Easterns are procurable at quotation, but no transaction are reported.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have changed hands at \$115. Luzons remain unchanged and without business.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled firm with buyers, and but few sellers, from 535 to 545 per cent. prem. Market closing steady at the latter rate. Kowloon Wharfs have been negotiated at \$84 and close steady at that rate. Wanchais unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands continue firm and sales have been effected at \$115, \$115 1/2 and \$116 ex div., closing with buyers at the last rate. Kowloon Lands have found buyers at \$28. Hotels remain steady to strong with sales at \$125 and \$126. West Points have changed hands at \$39 and \$39 1/2 ex div. and close firm at \$39. Humphreys Estate have been dealt in to a fair extent at \$9.75 and \$10 and a small sale was reported at \$104, at time of closing shares are obtainable at \$10 after further sales at that rate.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands, Watsons and Electrics have changed hands in small lots at quotations. Ices after a small sale at \$150 have improved without further business to \$167 at which rate market closes steady.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[\$343.75, sellers]
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$35 p. ct. prem.,—
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$26.
Foun. Shares	£8	\$26.
Bell's Asbestos E. A....	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$16
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$9 15, sellers
China Sugar	\$100	\$115, sales & buyers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 60.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 67.
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 67.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 375.
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 50.
Hongkong	\$100	\$33.
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$6, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo....	\$25	\$48, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$29, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$25.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$127.
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$11 1/2, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$2, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$150, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$167, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$84, sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$27 1/2
H. & W. Dock	\$125	\$545 % prem.,—
Insurance—		[\$306.25 buyers]
Canton	\$50	\$180, sales & buyers
China Fire	\$20	\$88, buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$57, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$33 1/2, buyers
North-China	£25	Tls. 18.
Straits	\$20	\$2, sellers
Union	\$50	\$235, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$117 1/2, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$116, buyers
Humphreys Estate....	\$10	\$10, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$28, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$9, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$16.
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$250, sellers
Gr. Estn. & C'donian	\$1	99 cts., sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	10 cts., buyers
Jelebu	\$5	\$13 1/2, sellers
Queen's Mines Ltd....	25c.	30 cts. sales & sellers
Olivers Mines, A....	\$5	\$8 1/2, sellers
Do. B....	\$4 1/2	\$60, sellers
Punjom	\$6	\$5.70, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$1.25, buyers
Raubs	15s 10d	\$62, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$20 1/2, sellers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$37, buyers
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£10, buyers
China Ordinary	£10	£14, buyers
Do.	£5	£5, sales
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$51, sellers
H., Canton and M....	\$15	\$24 1/2, ex div.
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$38 1/2, sellers
Shell Transport and		
Trading Co.	£100	£250
Star Ferry	\$7 1/2	\$20, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3
United Asbestos	\$2	\$4 1/2, buyers
D.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse	\$37 1/2	\$43 1/2, buyers
Watkin, Ltd.	\$10	\$10 1/2, sales
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$16, sales & buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 18th January.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—A fair amount of business was done during the week, taking into consideration the near approach of the Chinese New Year. Marine Insurance.—North Chinas were sold at Tls. 150, and are offering. Fire Insurance.—No local business. Hongkong are quoted at \$335. Shipping.—A large business has been done in Indo-China S. N. shares at Tls. 63/64.50 cash. 64/65.50 for the 31st current, 65/65.50 for February, 66/69 and afterwards 66.50 for March, 67 for April, and 67 to 67.50 for 10th May. China Mutual S. N.'s Ordinary shares, with 25 paid up, were sold at par, and a few more are wanted. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were sold at Tls. 59. Docks, Wharves & Godowns.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. were sold at Tls. 230, and are wanted. Shanghai Engineering shares were placed at Tls 102. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were sold for cash at Tls. 250 to Tls. 252.50 closing at the higher rate, and Tls. 260 for March. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were sold, and are wanted, at

Tls. 85. Industrial.—Shanghai Gas shares are offering at Tls. 207 ex the dividend of Tls. 6 paid on the 17th ultimo. Major Brothers shares are wanted at Tls. 85. International Cotton Mill shares were sold at Tls. 67 cash, and for April at Tls. 72, and shares for April delivery are wanted. Laou-kung-mow Cotton Mill shares were sold at Tls. 67. Shanghai Ice shares were placed at Tls. 28, and China Flour Mill shares at Tls. 33. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares have been in demand, and sales were made at Tls. 59 cash and T.s. 60 for March. A large business was done in Shanghai-Tobacco shares at T.s. 270/300 cash, Tls. 270/28 for January, Tls. 292.50/300 for March, Tls. 292.50/310 for April, and Tls. 330 for June. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares were sold at Tls. 73, and Central Stores shares at \$9.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 2nd February.—There has been a good demand for tonnage during the past two weeks, and rates have an upward tendency. Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul is offered for large carriers and 22 cents for medium sized steamers. Bangkok to this, 25 and 30 cents per picul has been paid for a small boat. Saigon to Philippines, 37 cents is obtainable. Java to Hongkong, 35 cents per picul. Moji to Manila, \$5 per ton; to Hongkong, \$2.60; to Singapore, \$3.25 per ton. Sailing vessels.—The American ship *Wm. H. Connor* proceeds to Singapore to load for New York or Boston.

There are two vessels disengaged in port registering 3,718 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Bittern—British schooner, 399 tons, Mantung to Singapore, \$1,800 in full.

Yanarica—British steamer, 2,153 tons, Moji to Manila, \$5 per ton.

Obi—British steamer, 1,951 tons, Moji to Manila, \$5 per ton.

Rugby—British steamer, 2,110 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$3.25 per ton.

Hainan—German steamer, 741 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.70 per ton.

Loyal—German steamer, 1,237 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.75; option Canton, \$1.10 per ton.

Sabine Rickmers—German steamer, 690 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 25 and 30 cents per picul.

Amoy—German steamer, 732 tons, hence to Kobe, 18 cents per picul.

Puung—British steamer, 1,410 tons, 2/3 ports north coast Java to Hongkong, 35 cents per picul.

Taihu—German steamer, 1,065 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.

Macduff—British steamer, 1,882 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.

Propontis—British steamer, 1,390 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 21 1/2 cents per picul.

Kongbeng—British steamer, 862 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 21 1/2 cents per picul.

Apennine—German steamer, 696 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 21 1/2 cents per picul.

Taicheng—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Decima—German steamer, 1,145 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Chowtai—British steamer, 1,115 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Hermes—Norwegian steamer, 849 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Atagasan Maru—Japanese steamer, 1,253 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,163 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 23 cents per picul.

A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to Cebu, 37 cents per picul.

Hainan—German steamer, 741 tons, Saigon to Manila, 37 cents per picul.

Taike—German steamer, 939 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 37 cents per picul.

Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 37 1/2 cents per picul.

Hinsang—British steamer, 1,838 tons, three ports north coast Java, to one port Japan, 65 cents per picul.

Talies—German steamer, 939 tons, hence to Mauritius and back, \$7,350 per month.

Victoria—Swedish steamer, 989 tons, monthly, 9/3 months, \$7,250 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Valetta* (str.), *Sarpidon* (str.)

Mendous (str.), *Canton* (str.).

For LIVERPOOL DIRECT.—*Pyrrhus* (str.).

For BREMEN.—*Sachsen* (str.).

For MARSEILLE.—*Salasia* (str.), *Annam* (str.), *Hitachi Maru* (str.).

For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Holsatia* (str.), *Babelberg* (str.), *Sarola* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

January—

ARRIVALS.

- 26, Ceylon, British str., from London.
 26, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 27, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 27, Caledonien, French str., from Shanghai.
 27, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 27, Warren, U.S. transport, from Manila.
 27, China, German str., from Saigon.
 27, Chinkiang, British str., from Canton.
 27, Machew, British str., from Siam.
 27, Mukden, Russian str., from Chefoo.
 28, Chiyoda Maru, Japanese str., from Amoy.
 28, Kwushan, British str., from Singapore.
 28, Hakuai Maru, Japanese str., from Amoy.
 28, Kingsing, British str., from Shanghai.
 28, Laos, French str., from Marseilles.
 28, Michael Jensen, German str., from Saigon.
 28, Nanyang, German str., from Java.
 28, Choysang, British str., from Canton.
 28, Yamaguchi Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 28, Kiangnan, British str., from Chinkiang.
 28, Sandakan, German str., from Sandakan.
 28, Siam, British str., from Singapore.
 28, Belgian King, Brit. str., from S. Francisco.
 29, Amoy, German str., from Amoy.
 29, Silesia, German str., from Shanghai.
 29, Benlomond, British str., from Shanghai.
 29, Broad Mayne, British str., from Samoa.
 29, Cheangchow, British str., from Straits.
 29, Chunsang, British str., from Hongay.
 29, Cowrie, British str., from Shanghai.
 29, Brodie Castle, British ship, from N. York.
 30, Victoria, British str., from Manila.
 31, Rosetta, British str., from Yokohama.
 31, Pronto, German str., from Saigon.
 31, Keongwai, British str., from Bangkok.
 31, Teenkai, British str., from Singapore.
 31, Allerton, British ship, from Cardiff.
 31, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 31, Chusan, British str., from Bombay.
 31, Radnorsnre, British str., from London.
 31, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
 31, Tsurugisan Maru, Jap. str., from K'otzu.
 31, El-e, German str., from Bangkok.

February—

- 1, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 1, Ariake Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 1, Keelung Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 1, Valetta, British str., from Shanghai.
 1, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
 1, Atagasan Maru, Jap. str., from Swatow.
 1, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., from Y'hama.
 1, Emily Reed, Amr. ship, from Singapore.
 1, Brooklyn, Amr. flagship, from Manila.
 2, Diamante, British str., from Manila.
 2, Changsha, British str., from Sydney.
 2, Idzumi Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 2, Deuterios, German str., from Saigon.
 2, Clara, German str., from Haiphong.
 2, Progress, German str., from Touron.
 2, Glenogle, British str., from Tacoma.
 2, P. C. C. Kiao, British str., from Bangkok.
 2, Shansi, British str., from Samarang.
 2, Pakshan, British str., from Saigon.
 2, Menelaus, British str., from Shanghai.
 2, Nestor, British str., from Liverpool.
 2, Kalgan, British str., from Wuhu.
 2, Hainan, German str., from Moji.
 2, Bengloe, British str., from Kutchinotzu.

January—

DEPARTURES.

- 27, America Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
 27, Hangchow, British str., for Canton.
 27, Nanchang, British str., for Manila.
 27, Kinshu Maru, Jap. str., for Seattle.
 27, Sarpedon, British str., for Shanghai.
 27, Eastern, British str., for Sydney.
 27, Chelydra, British str., for Calcutta.
 27, Bombay, British str., for London.
 28, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 28, Valkyrien, British bark, for Rajang.
 28, Lienching, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Kwangse, British str., for Shanghai.
 28, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 28, Kong Beng, British str., for Saigon.
 28, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 28, Wittenberg, German str., for Hamburg.
 28, Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 28, Kwangping, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 28, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Canton.
 29, Peacock, British g-bl., for Shanghai.
 29, Laos, French str., for Shanghai.
 29, Caledonien, French str., for Europe.
 29, Decima, German str., for Saigon.

- 29, Loksang, British str., for Bangkok.
 29, Fausang, British str., for Sourabaya.
 29, Choysang, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Ceylon, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Castine, Amr. g-bl., for Nagasaki.
 30, Swatow, German str., for Haiphong.
 30, Alesia, German str., for Yokohama.
 30, Kingsing, British str., for Canton.
 30, Chiyoda Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 30, Yuensang, British str., for Manila.
 30, Tailee, German str., for Foochow.
 30, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
 30, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 30, Arratoon Apar, British str., for Calcutta.
 30, Benlomond, British str., for Singapore.
 30, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.
 30, Amara, British str., for Sourabaya.
 30, Iltis, German gunboat, for Macao.
 31, China, German str., for Saigon.
 31, Shini Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 31, Cowrie, British str., for Singapore.
 31, Dr. H. J. Kiser, Norw. str., for Chinkiang.
 31, Silesia, German str., for Hamburg.
 31, Hakuai Maru, Jap. str., for Amoy.

February—

- 1, Mukden, Russian str., for Nagasaki.
 1, Camorta, British str., for Amoy.
 1, Afridi, British str., for New York.
 1, Warren, Amr. transport, for New York.
 2, Chusan, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Burdon, British str., for Elephant Point.
 2, Atagasan Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
 2, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.
 2, Woosung, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Hailong*, from Coast Ports, Rev. P. Clemente, Rev. P. C. Hernandez, Messrs. A. F. Gardiner and Ngo Boon Sien.

Per *Warren*, from Manila, General Wheeler.

Per *Ceylon*, for Hongkong, from London, Mr. D. M. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Norton Kyshe; for Shanghai, Mr. F. J. Popplestone; for Yokohama, Messrs. A. I. Melhuish, K. Dodds and F. W. Pettitt; for Hongkong, from Singapore, Mr. F. Green.

Per *Yuensang*, from Manila, Messrs. Ellan, Glissman, Hennerbeger, Burdon, Tibbey, Johnston and Wright.

Per *Caledonien*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Morfield, Mr. and Mrs. Rusel, Messrs. King Sley, Ching W. R. Harris, Kisternacher, Stewart, Robbins family, (3) Tuason and family (10); from Yokohama, Roth family (3), Messrs. Pfeifer, Gones and infant, Guan Yin Tong; from Kobe, Mr. G. H. da Costa and Miss S. Suzuki; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Mr. E. Suzuki; from Yokohama, Mr. F. B. Etchoery; from Kobe, Miss Karsaski; from Nagasaki, Mr. G. Windern; for Singapore, from Shanghai, Mrs. Conston and infant; from Kobe, Mr. Oyama; from Nagasaki, Mr. Watouaka; for Port Said, from Shanghai, Mrs. Mialia (2); for Marseilles, Prince Ye Min, Messrs. Saltarel, Debru, Kindblad, Sheaver and three Coreans; from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. C. Oiki, Messrs. Takahashi, Nakagawa, Y. Kakamura, E. Ohonri, E. Tawada, Tanaka, E. Matsui, Takemura, E. Hitoki and Mrs. Koiso; from Kobe, Messrs. Jisaburo Takito, C. Yamada, H. Tanaka, H. Takakama and Taginuti.

Per *Machew*, from Siam, Mr. Black.

Per *Kingsing*, from Shanghai, &c., Mrs. Remedios and 3 children.

Per *Hakuai Maru*, from Amoy, Mrs. Surplice, Capt. Hutchison, Messrs. Cumming, F. H. Bell and Dykiman.

Per *Laos*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Messrs. Modesto Reyes, Vicente Muster, and Laughtin; from Singapore, Mr. Cing Kang; from Saigon, Messrs. Enile Lutz, Joseph Martin, Bernard, Hinaff, and Max Flusche; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. Wagner, Mr. and Mrs. Caels and 2 children, Messrs. Jules Mulkay, Comhaire and Leopold Wiegand, Mr. and Mrs. Moring, Mr. and Mrs. Meyer; for Nagasaki, from Singapore, Mrs. Ohnio; for Kobe, from Colombo, Mrs. and Miss Blokkong; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. Ernest Peussant, Heulsh, Frookes and Cartwright; from Bombay, Messrs. O. Atahnl, Pasumal and Major E. J.

Sarkies; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Seymour; from Singapore, Messrs. Holloway and Shebuys; from Saigon, Mr. Churchill and Mrs. Maydani Metz.

Per *Belgian King*, from San Francisco, &c., Mrs. W. H. Beck and Mrs. Procter and son.

Per *Silesia*, from Japan, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Langfeldt.

Per *andakan*, from Sandakan, Messrs. Baxter and Isormapger, Mr. and Mrs. Klamburg, Messrs. Eichholz, Wooden and Topp.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Mrs. Perim, Mrs. Stamfield and children.

Per *Sunghiang*, from Manila, Messrs. A. Masson, J. F. Wagne, M. Hicks, Capt. Framp-ton, Messrs. Em. de Herlinvil e. T. S. Snyder, G. A. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Lee de Delples, Miss Munro, Capt. Michael, Mr. D. Mackin, Mrs. Mybrugh and Mr. C. J. Price.

Per *Camorta*, from Rangoon, &c., Messrs. C. R. Ashton and Smith.

Messrs. R. Gordon Smith and George Kiss.

Per *Teenhai*, from Singapore, 200 Chinese.

Per *Rosetta*, from Yokohama, Messrs. F. Tregillus, A. Tregillus, E. C. Potter, J. B. Carnauff, E. P. Bellen, H. H. Schleifenbaum and A. A. da Roza.

Per *Woosung*, from Shanghai and Amoy, Messrs. V. Graves and J. Macgowan.

Per *Valetta*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Messrs. Bovers, Finam, Haeling, Hillier, Reid, Tam, Sun Han Chang, Ching I'ed Dia, Chang Kew Yeb, Letton, Schneider, Shepherd and Sample; for Singapore, Mr. Ho Kwon Tong; for Marseilles, Miss Powell, Miss Eacott, Miss Taylor, Rev. and Mrs. Hill and infant, Mrs. and 2 Masters Protheroe, Master R. Jackson and Mr. G. W. Whillier; for London, Rev. and Mrs. Randle, 2 Misses Randle and Master Randle.

DEPARTED.

Per *Bombay*, from Shanghai for London, Mr. H. H. Robinson; from Yokohama, for Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Tedlie; from Hongkong, for Europe, Mrs. Nesbitt, Messrs. J. McLaughlan and A. H. Doeg.

Per *Yawata Maru*, for Sydney, from Hongkong, Mrs. Donovan, Mr. Donovan, Miss A. M. MacFarlane, Mr. Jas. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Wong She; for Melbourne, Mr. C. Plinston, Masters W. G. and M. Southley, for Brisbane, Miss Reily, Mr. and Mrs. Cowrie; for Manila, Messrs. E. Dun, Morse, Mrs. Hale, Mrs. Hauxhurst, Mr. N. G. Van Sant, Mr. G. Van Sant, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Ocampo and 5 servants, Miss Emilia Reyes, Master Joseph Ocampo, Mr. V. Ocampo, Mr. J. Fernandez, Mr. T. H. Glover, Mrs. Alejandra Palanca and 4 servants, Rev. M. Fernandes, Mr. and Mrs. Macleod and 2 servants, Mrs. H. A. Macleod and 2 children; Messrs. H. F. Gaiser, Mr. H. Crombie, Mrs. Lerter Harvey, Messrs. Itzkow and S. Falkenflick.

Per *Esmeralda*, from Hongkong for Manila, Miss A. Cumer, Dr. and Mrs. Ottoly and son, Messrs. Conley, F. H. Smith, H. W. Newhall Jacob Weidmann and G. Seeles.

Per *America Moru*, for Shanghai, Messrs. Douglas Jones, Y. Hayakawa and K. Ota; for Nagasaki, Mr. M. J. Marsh; for Kobe, Messrs. K. Ito, Tomono, A. F. Gardiner, Mr. and Mrs. Hatabu; for Yokohama, Messrs. F. di Villahermosa and E. Ralpho; for San Francisco, Messrs. Jas. Craw, Richard Pitrot and Frederick Greene; for New York, Messrs. Graffin Cash, J. H. Mahoney, Rev. and Mrs. S. A. Perrine, Miss Linden Perrine and Dr. D. H. Morgan; for London, Count Rossi Maritini, Dr. A. Gorni, Mr. R. C. McKerrow, Mrs. Watson and Miss Hughes; for St. Louis, Mr. L. W. Burskett.

Per *Laos*, for Shanghai, Capt. B. de Lacoste, Lieut. Enseline and Mr. R. L. Pinkerton; for Kobe, Mr. Y. S. Gubbay; for Yokohama, 2 Chinese.

Per *Caledonien*, for Saigon, Messrs. F. Pings, E. Bortas, Pont, J. Johnstone and Rev. Cherpin; for Colombo, Mr. W. R. Harris; for Marseilles, Capt. F. Ellis, J. A. da Silva Lopes, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Bernivers and 6 Portuguese sailors.

Per *Yuensang* for Manila, Mrs. William Henry Beck, Mrs. M. L. Wertheim, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Carstens, Miss Henshall, Mrs. J. Practon and child, Messrs. Adolfo Fuster, Modesto Reyes, Francisco Oeya, Richard Greer.

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